

Final Report

Shearography NDE of NASA COPV

Tests Performed at NASA White Sands Test Facility, NM Sept. 12-16, 2006

> Prepared By John W. Newman October 25, 2006

Final Report - Shearography NDE of NASA COPV

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Section 1.0

Summary

- 1. 21 Composite Over-wrapped Pressure Vessels (COPV) consisting of Kevlar Space Shuttle Fleet Leaders and Graphite COPV were inspected at NASA WSTF, NM from Sept. 12 through Sept 16.
- 2. The inspection technique was Pressurization Shearography, tests designed to image composite material damage, degradation or design flaws leading to stress concentrations in the axial or hoop strain load path.
- 3. The defect types detected consisted of the following:
 - Intentional impact damage with known energy.
 - Un-intentional impact damage.
 - Manufacturing defects.
- 4. COPV design features leading to strain concentrations detected include:
 - Strain concentrations at bosses due to fiber closure pattern.
 - Strain concentrations in body of COPV due to fiber wrap pattern.
 - Strain concentrations at equator due to liner weld/fiber lay-up.



Final Report - Shearography NDE of NASA COPV

Summary, Cont'd.

- 5. Shearography compliments other NDE techniques, such as Visual Inspection.
 - Of 51 shearography indications detected on Kevlar COPV and Graphite Cylinder COPV, 9 were not detected visually. (See 7.0 Defect Guide)
 - The extent of subsurface composite matrix damage and delamination due impact, can be measured with Pressurization Shearography.
- 6. Kevlar COPV results are presented in Section 9.0, herein. Graphite COPV results are presented in Section 10.0, herein.

John Newman
Laser Technology Inc.
October 25, 2006

Shearography NDE of Space Shuttle COPV COPV Types Inspected

10 Inch Graphite Sphere



10 Inch Kevlar Fleet Leader



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6 x 22 Graphite COPV



26 Inch Diam. Kevlar Fleet Leader



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Section 2.0

Shearography NDE of NASA COPV Significance of Test and Results

- 1. Shearography inspection of COPV is a new, promising tool for the evaluation of manufacturing defects, damage from impact or degradation from high temperature, chemical or radiation exposure. Although used by the author on Delta IV COPV and on other programs, this series of tests at WSTF is the first application of Digital Phase Shearography for NASA COPV.
- 2. Shearography COPV NDE has the capability to image and measure sub-surface, non-visible matrix damage, quickly and with excellent repeatability.
- 3. These tests were designed to detect local changes in surface axial and hoop strain caused by damage to the composite matrix or manufacturing defects. Lessons learned during these tests will improve technique and results in the future.
- 4. While the damage detection capability has been clearly demonstrated, the specific effect of such damage on COPV creep rupture characteristics, reduction in burst strength and life time performance has not been established.

Section 3.0

Shearography NDE Team Performing Tests NASA White Sands Test Facility, NM Sept. 12-16, 2006



Paul Ogletree USA KSC
Dr. Brad Regez USA KSC
Jim Landry USA KSC
Leo Going USA KSC
John Newman Laser Technology Inc.
Ken Tauer USA KSC

Section 4.0

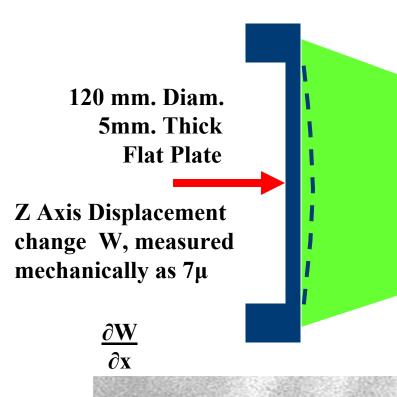
Background On Shearography NDE

Equipment used for these tests was the LTI-5100 All Mode, Digital Shearography System



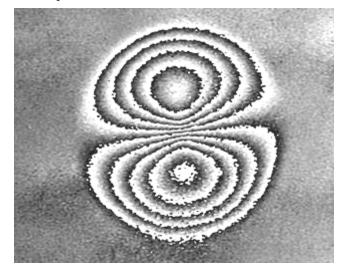
Features:

- Z Axis deformation to 2 nm.
- Quantitative displacement measurement capability.
- Damage/Defect size area measurement.
- Remote control of all camera parameters allows testing in hazardous environments.
- Eye safe Class IIIa Laser System.
- Training to ASNT TC-1A Level II and III.

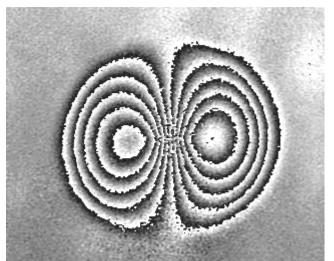


Flat Circular Plate Deformation With Center, Single Point Load Phase Maps for: $\frac{\partial W}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial W}{\partial y}$

Shearography Camera



Vertical 90° Shear Vector



Horizontal 0° Shear Vector Laser Technology Inc.

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120 mm. Diam.
5mm. Thick
Flat Plate

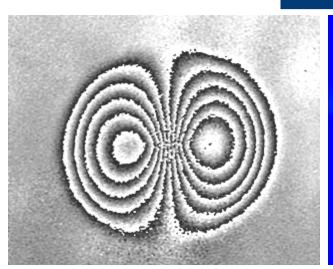
Z Axis Displacement
change W, measured
mechanically as 7µ

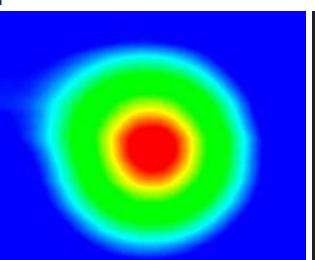
Flat Circular Plate Deformation With Center, Single Point Load:

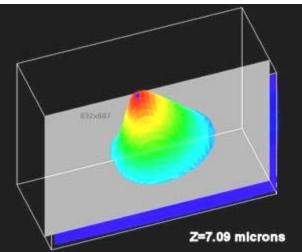
Quantitative Z Axis

Displacement Measurement

Shearography Camera







Phase Map $\frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$ In Laser Technology Inc.

Aerospace Inspection Systems

Integration $\int \frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} d\mathbf{x}$ IC.

ms www.LaserNDT.com

3-D Plot and measurement of Z Axis displacement Page 11

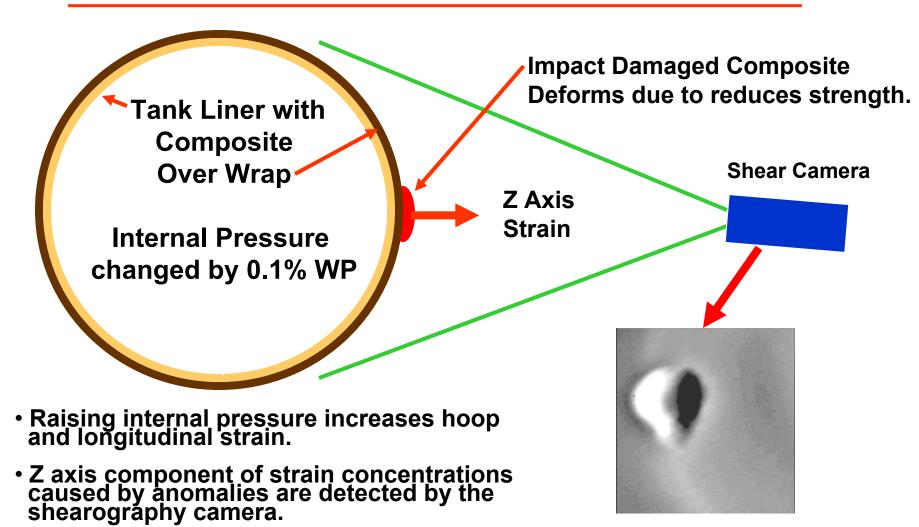
Section 5.0

Background On Shearography COPV NDE

Shearography NDE of COPV

- Full field laser interferometric imaging of COPV composite materials for damage, liner to composite disbonds or design flaws, leading to stress concentrations affecting hoop strain.
- Shearography camera is used with precision control of COPV internal pressure changes.
- Defective composite material dimensions/area are easily measured.

Pressure Shearography Detection of Defects in COPV



 As pressure increases, strain rates at damage areas are greater than good areas.

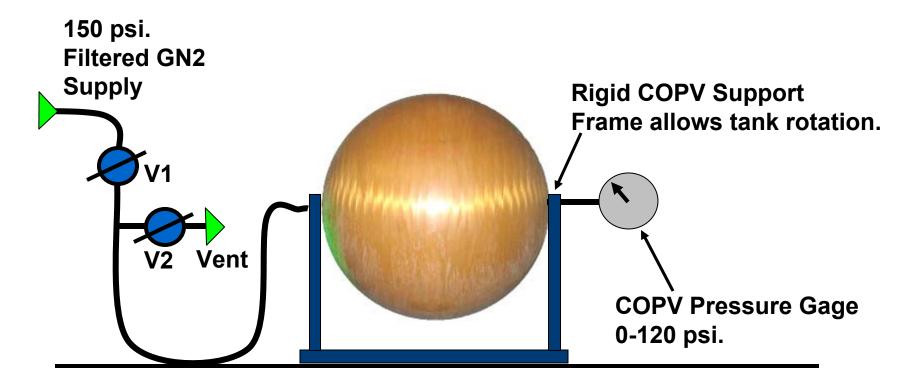
Shearography Impact Damage Indication



Shearography COPV Test Procedure

- 1. Preparation of COPV Test articles
 - Kevlar COPV were tested without coating
 - Graphite COPV were coated with dye penetrant developer to reduce glare and increase surface reflectivity.
- 2. Test Article mounted in fixture to provide mechanical stability and allow rotation.
- 3. Pressure hose fitted with tank gage connected to pressure feed line in blind COPV and to the gage port if present.
- 4. Pressure in COPV raised to 70 psi. to allow minimum pressure cycle time.
- 5. An LTI-5100 Digital Shearography Camera System was used with the following parameters:
 - Distance to Part 34 inches
 - Shear Vector 0° (axial) @ 0.25 in.
 - Field of view (8 in. H x 6.2 in. V) and (11 in. H x 7.3 in. V)

Shearography Test Set-Up for COPV Testing Pneumatic Operation/Shearography Data Capture



- 1. V1 opened, pressure raised to 70psi., V1 closed.
- 2. Shearography reference image captured @70 psi.
- 3. V1 opened, pressure raised to 90psi., V1 closed.
- 4. Shearography Stressed image captured @90 psi.
- 5. Final shearography image computed.



Shearography Test Set Up at WSTF 9-12-06

COPV Support Fixture -

LTI-5100 Shearography Camera



GN2 Valve And Pressure Gage.

LTI-5100 Camera Controls/ Image Processing Computer

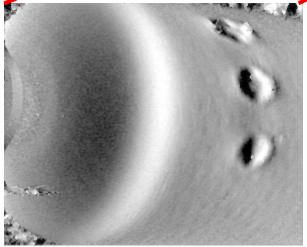
Section 6.0

Interpreting Shearography COPV NDE Results

6 x 22 Inch Graphite COPV Shearography Inspected with 10 psid. Crater like indications are impact induced damage and delamination to the composite.



Centered At 30°

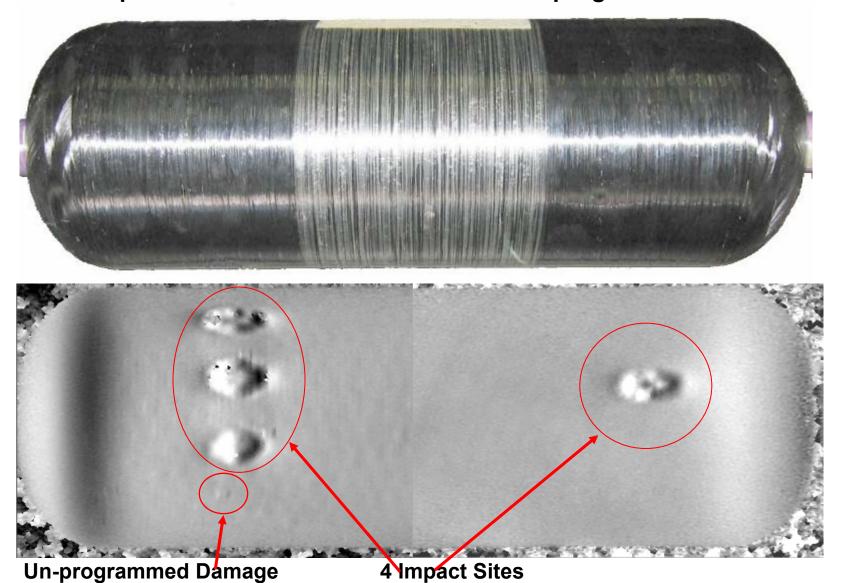


Centered At 60°





6 x 22 Inch Graphite COPV Shearography Inspected with 10 psid. Three impact areas are seen and one small un-programmed defect.





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10 Inch Diam. Carbon Fiber COPV

Shearography Test with 1.2 psid

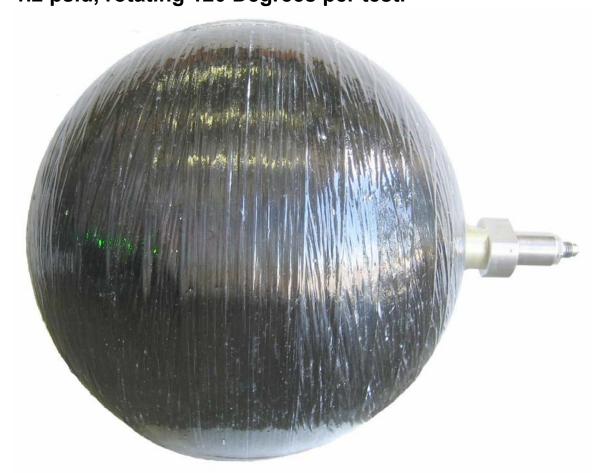


No visible damage except 0.15 inch diameter dimple at impact sites.



Impact induced delamination .75 to 2.3 inches in diameter.

10 Inch Diam. Carbon Fiber COPV – Typical Images Side View Showing Pressure Fitting Shearography Test, at right with 1.2 psid, rotating 120 Degrees per test.

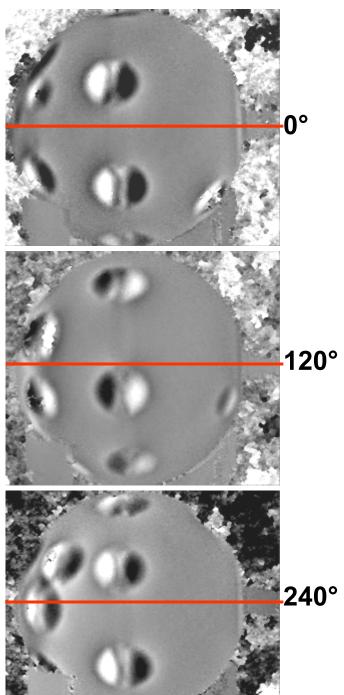


No visible damage except 0.15 inch diameter dimple at impact sites.



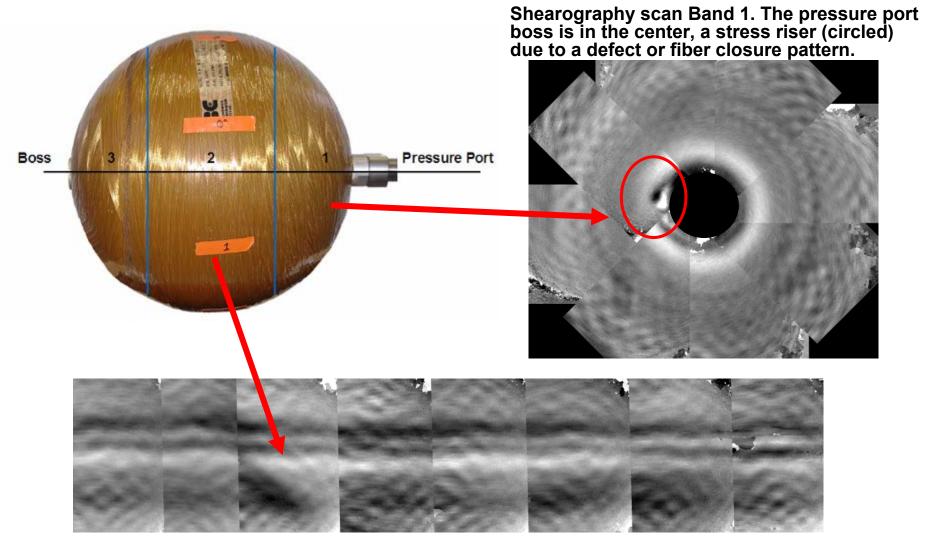
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Aerospace Inspection Systems

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10 Inch Diam. Carbon Fiber COPV – Typical Images Stress Concentration Around Boss **Side View Showing Pressure Fitting Shearography Test, at right with** 1.2 psid, rotating 190 Degrees per test. 190° No visible damage except 0.15 inch diameter dimple at impact sites. Laser Technology Inc.

10 1/4 Inch Kevlar COPV - Typical Images



Shearography Scan of Band 2 at the equator showing the Strain concentration over the circumferential liner girth weld.

Section 7.0

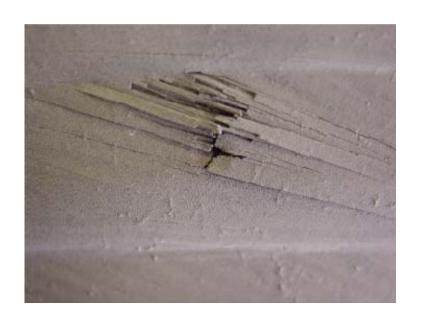
Shearography COPV NDE Compared to Visual Inspection

Relative Strengths and Weakness

Shearography COPV NDE Compared to Visual Inspection

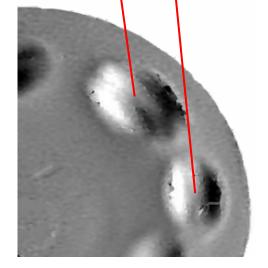
- 1. Visual Testing of COPV detects:
 - Surface fiber breakage.
 - Dimpled COPV surface from impact object.
 - Changes in surface color, texture, appearance indicative of damage.
- 2. Visual Testing is fast, uses low cost magnifiers and lighting.
- 3. Visual Testing is not affected by COPV color, reflectivity or finish.
- 4. Shearography detects any non-homogeneity in the COPV composite or liner that leads to local changes in the surface strain. Such defects include:
 - Fiber breakage, surface and subsurface matrix cracking
 - Degradation of composite matrix due to chemical or UV exposure.
 - Design or manufacturing flaws such as poor fiber closure pattern at bosses, bridging at transitions such as those at dome to cylinder areas.
- 5. Shearography NDE requires relatively expensive equipment, operator training, part stability and fixture.
- 6. Shearography is affected by and procedures must accommodate COPV color, reflectivity and glare.

Visual impact damage for the graphite COPV ranged from severe fracture seen below, enhanced with dye penetrant coating, to little or no discernable damage beyond the very small, 0.1-0.2 inch impact sites seen on 10 1/4 inch COPV at right.



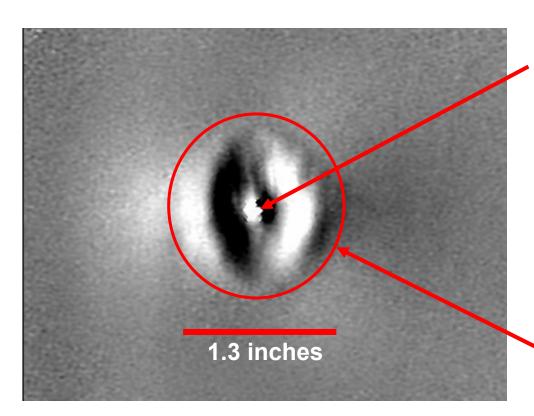


Shearography image of area on the 10 ¼ inch COPV above.





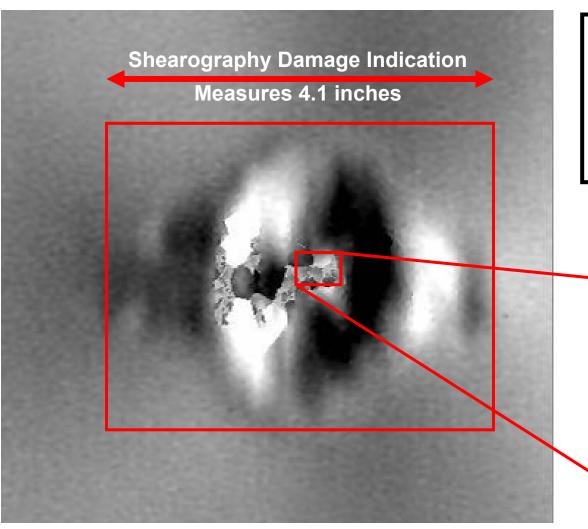
Shearography and Visual Indications of COPV Impact Damage



Impact Site for intentional Defects are seen visually as dimple, fiber breakage and/or color change.

Visual indication of composite damage ranged from severe fracturing at area around impact site to a small crack or dimple, to no visual indication.

Shearography indications seen in graphite COPV ranged from 0.2 to 4 inches in diameter.



Comparison Between The Measured Shearography Damage Dimensions and Visual Damage of 50 Ft-Lb Impact @ 180°, 10 Inches from Forward Boss



Visual Damage Measured 0.5 in.

Section 8.0

Defect Guide to Found Shearography Indications in Tested COPV

Defect Guide to Found Shearography Indications in Tested COPV

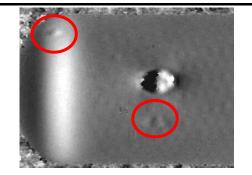
| Kevlar COPV Indication Type | Pages | S/N |
|--|-------|------------|
| 1. Strain Concentrations at Boss- 10¹/₄ in. Kevlar Sphere | 66,76 | 003 004 |
| 2. Stain Concentrations at Girth Weld - 26 in. Kevlar Sphere | 38,49 | 001 |
| 3. Fiber Delamination- 26 in Kevlar Sphere | 45 | 005 |

Defect Guide to Found Shearography Indications in Tested COPV

Graphite COPV Indications

Pages S/N

1. Unintentional Damage 6x22 in. Cylinder



91,92,93,94 015

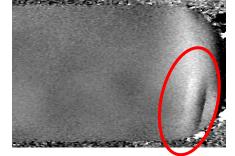
1. Cracks Due to Impact 6x22 in. Cylinder



101 063

Shear image shows crack 5 inches in length.

1. Fiber Bridging at Transitions



105,106,107

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Kevlar COPV Shearography Test Results

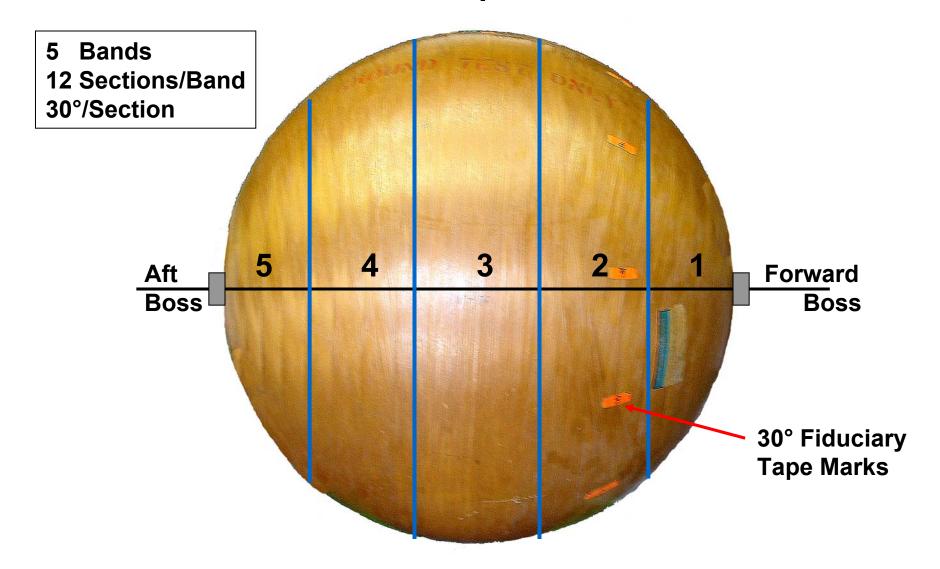
Space Shuttle Kevlar COPV

| 26 Inch Kevlar Sphere | s/n 001 |
|---|---------|
| 26 Inch Kevlar Sphere | s/n 005 |
| 18 Inch Kevlar Sphere | s/n 001 |
| 18 Inch Kevlar Sphere | s/n 004 |
| • 10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere | s/n 001 |
| • 10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere | s/n 003 |
| • 10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere | s/n 012 |
| • 10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere | s/n 014 |
| • 10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere | s/n 015 |
| • 10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere | s/n 019 |

Shearography COPV Test Data

26 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 001

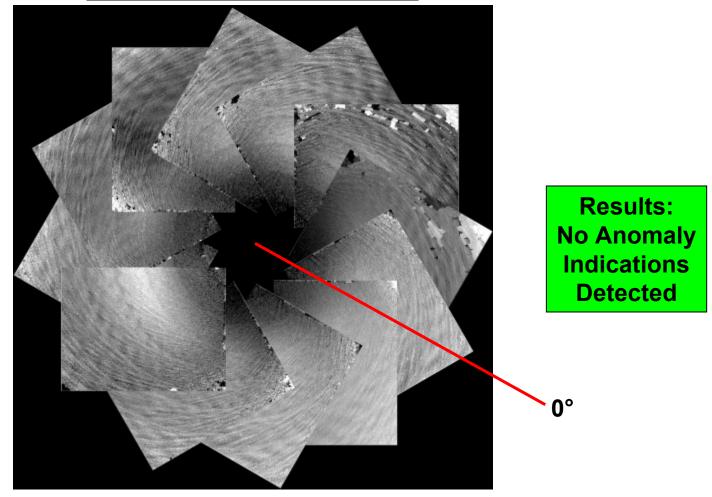
26 Inch Kevlar Sphere Scan Plan



Shearography COPV Test Data

26 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 001

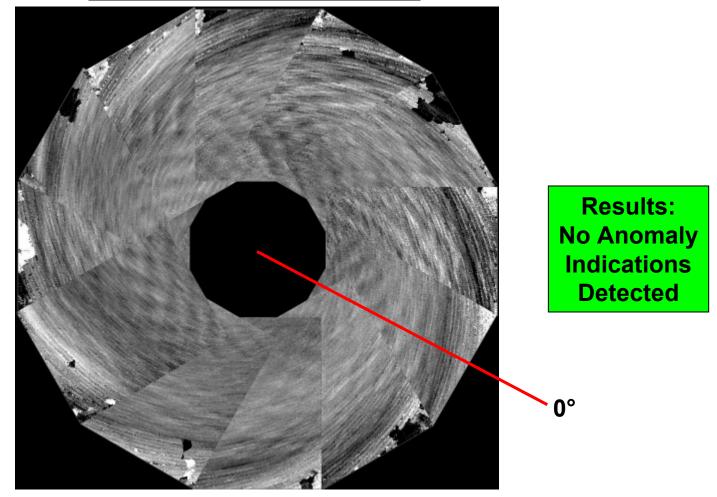
Band 1 Forward Boss End





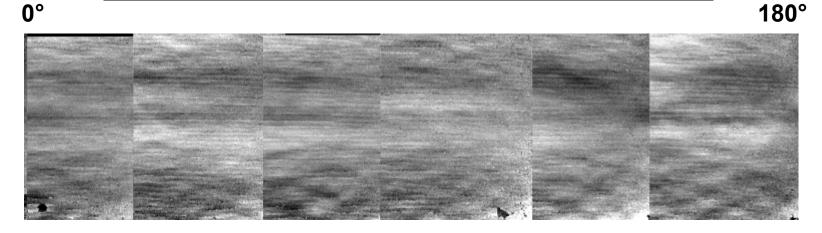
Laser Technology Inc. **Aerospace Inspection Systems**

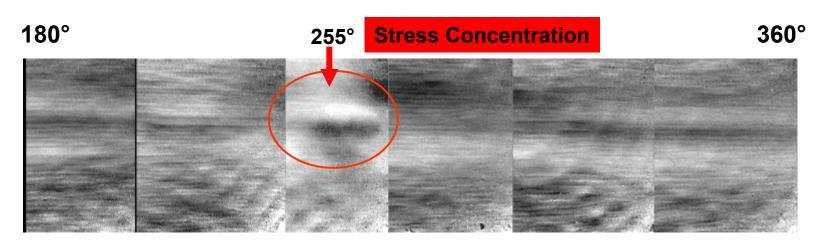
Band 2 Forward Boss End



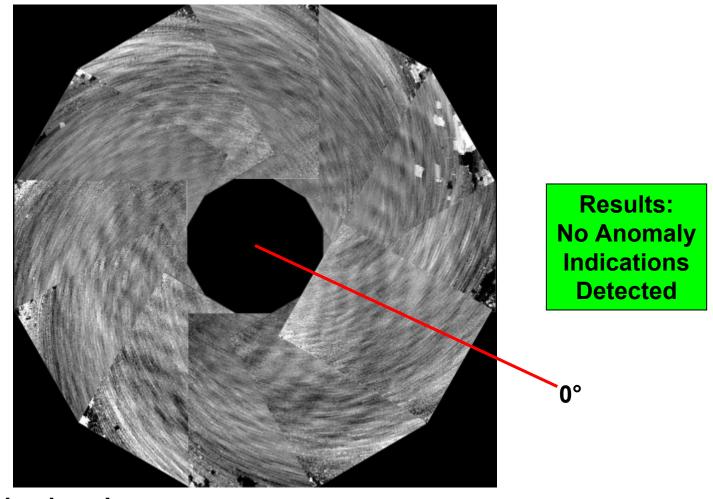
Shearography COPV Test Data 26 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 001

Band 3 Equator Over Circumferential Girth Weld



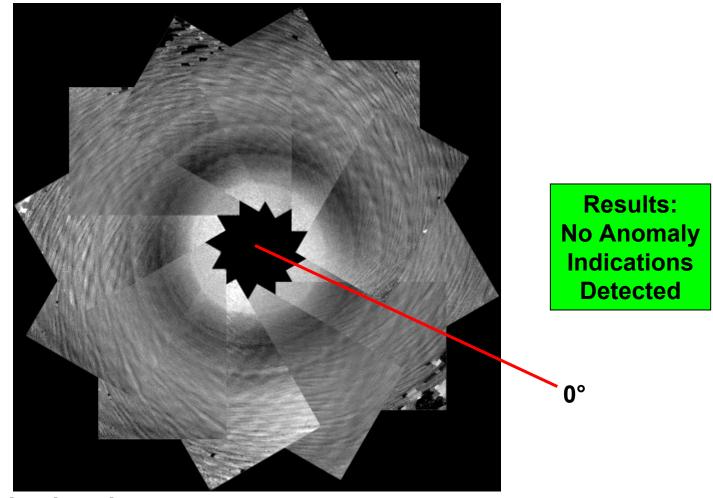


Band 4 Forward Boss End



26 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 001

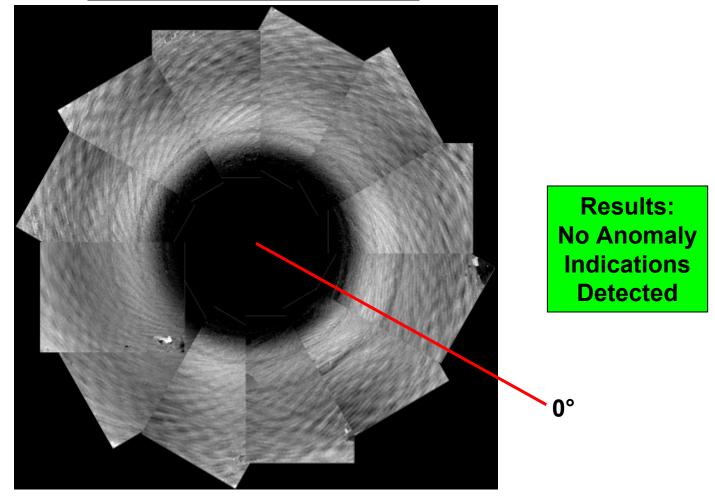
Band 5 Aft Boss End



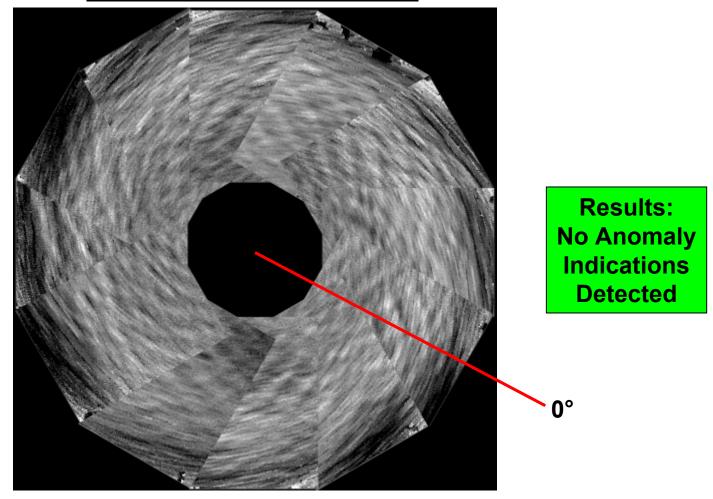


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Band 1 Forward Boss End



Band 2 Forward Boss End

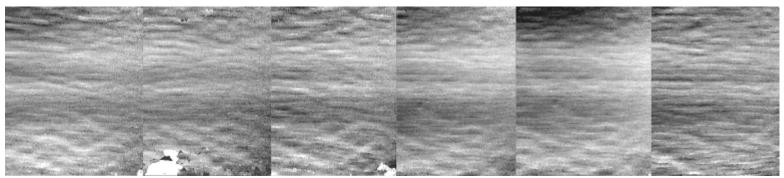


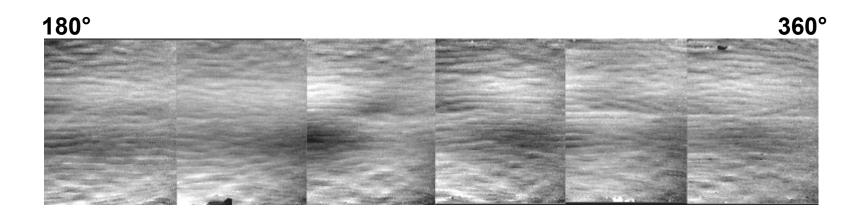
26 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 005

Results: No Anomaly **Indications Detected**

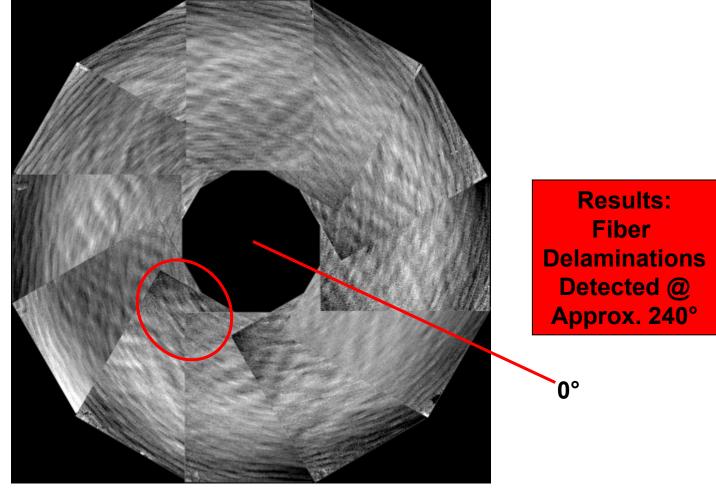
Band 3 Equator Over Circumferential Girth Weld

0° 180°

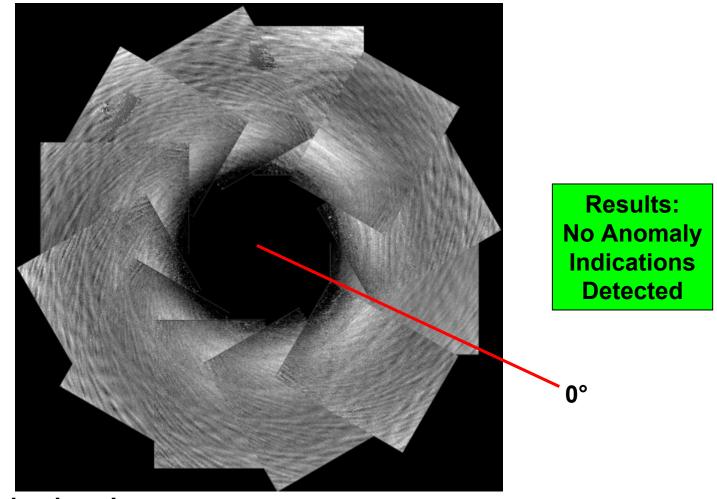




Band 4 Forward Boss End



Band 5 Aft Boss End

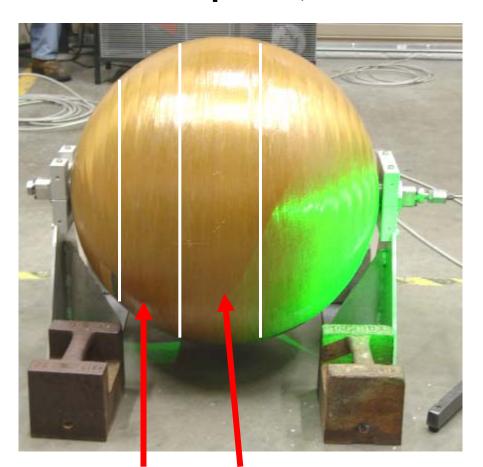




Summary Shearography COPV Test Results

26 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 001 s/n 005

Shearography Inspection of 26 Inch Kevlar COPV Band 3 – Equator, Over Circumferential Girth Weld



Band 4 Band 3 Equator

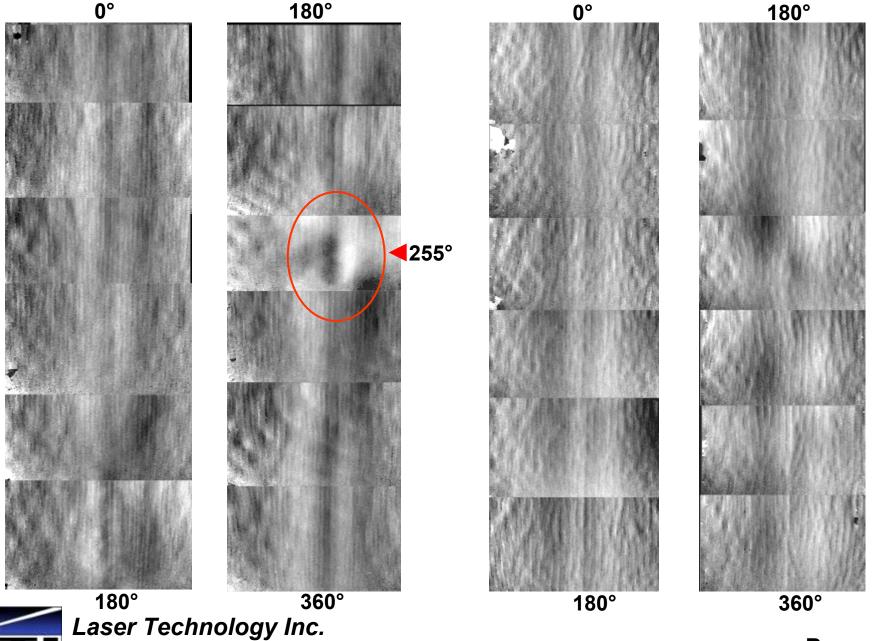
- Pressure Shearography inspected with 20 psid.
- COPV s/n 001 and 005 tested.

Test Results:

s/n 001 Strain concentration @255°

s/n 005
Fiber Delaminations Detected
Band 4 @ approx. 240°

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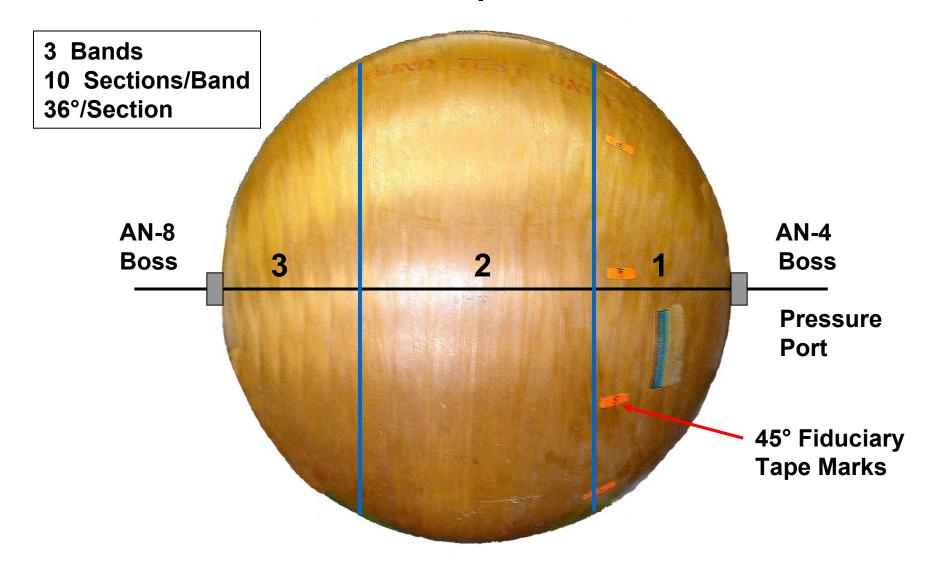


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18 Inch Kevlar Sphere Test Fixture

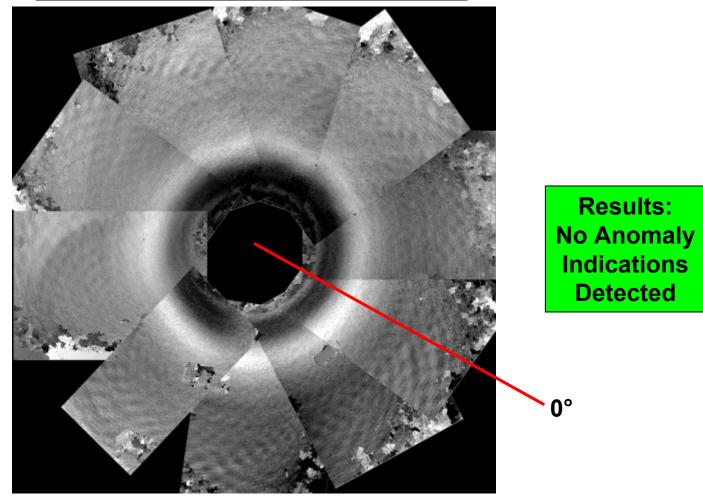


18 Inch Kevlar Sphere Scan Plan



18 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 001

Band 1 AN-4 Boss (Pressure Port)





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18 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 001

Results: **No Anomaly Indications Detected**

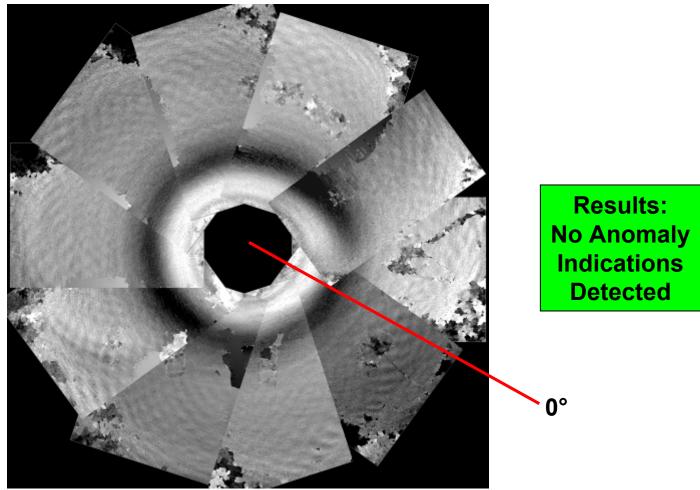
Band 2 Equator over Circumferential Girth Weld

0° 360°



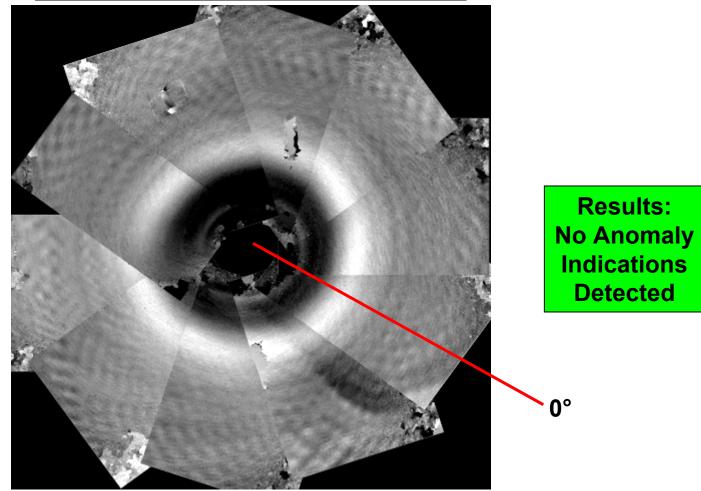
18 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 001

Band 3 AN-8 Boss (Blank End)



18 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 004

Band 1 AN-4 Boss (Pressure Port)

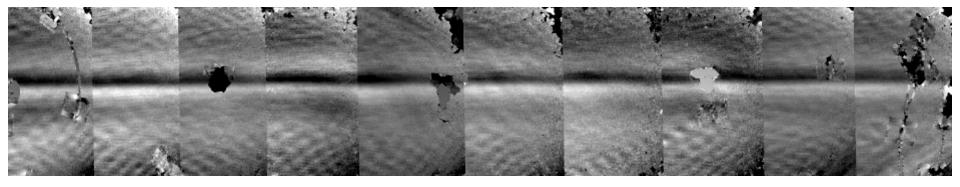


18 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 004

Results: **No Anomaly Indications Detected**

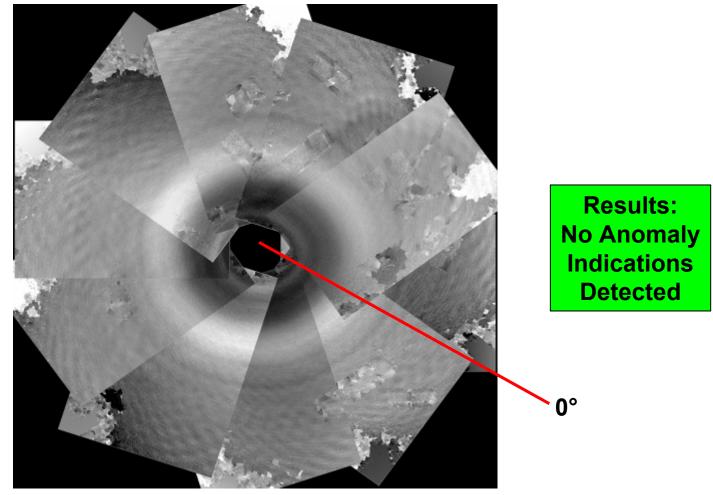
Band 2 Equator over Circumferential Girth Weld

0° 360°



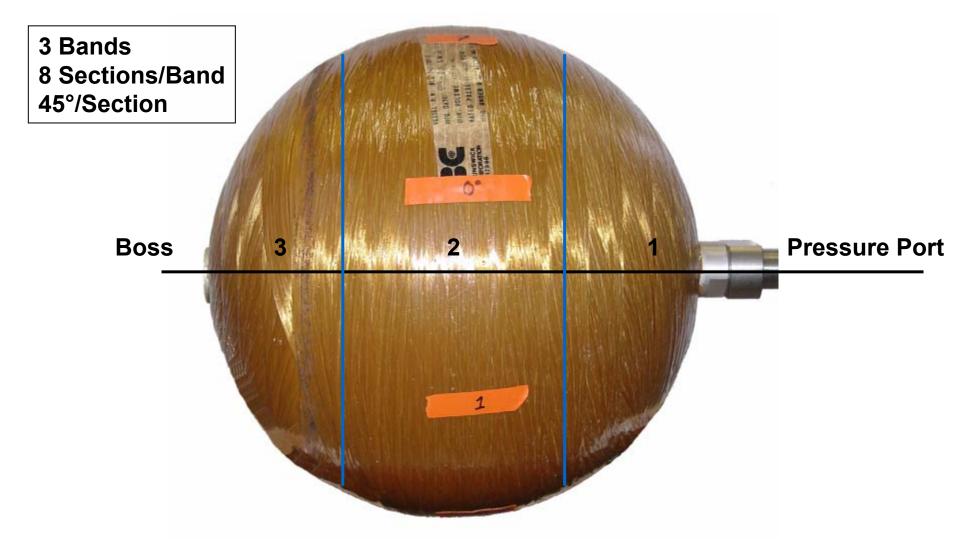
18 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 004

Band 3 AN-8 Boss (Blank End)



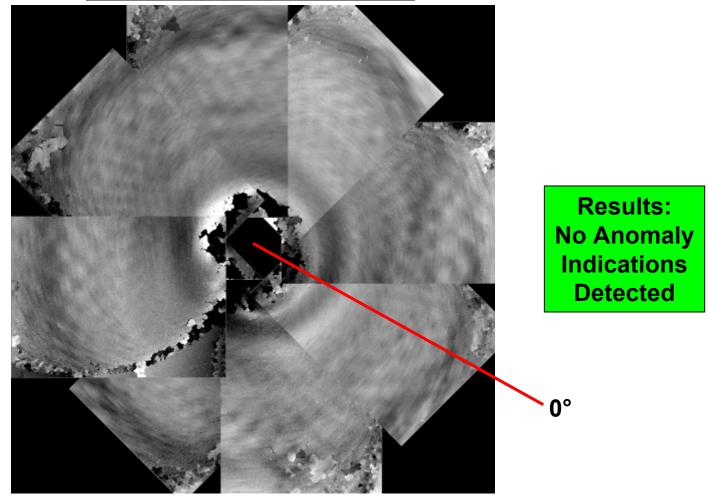


10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere Scan Plan



10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 001

Band 1 Pressure Port End





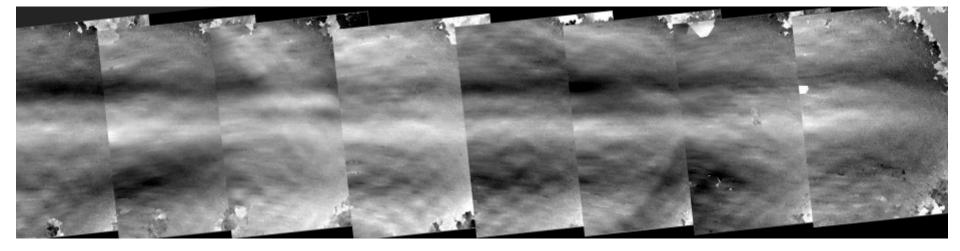
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10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 001

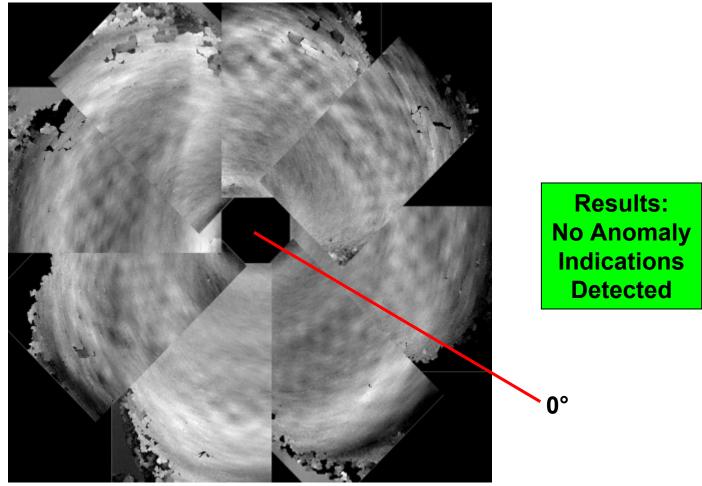
Band 2 Equator over Circumferential Weld

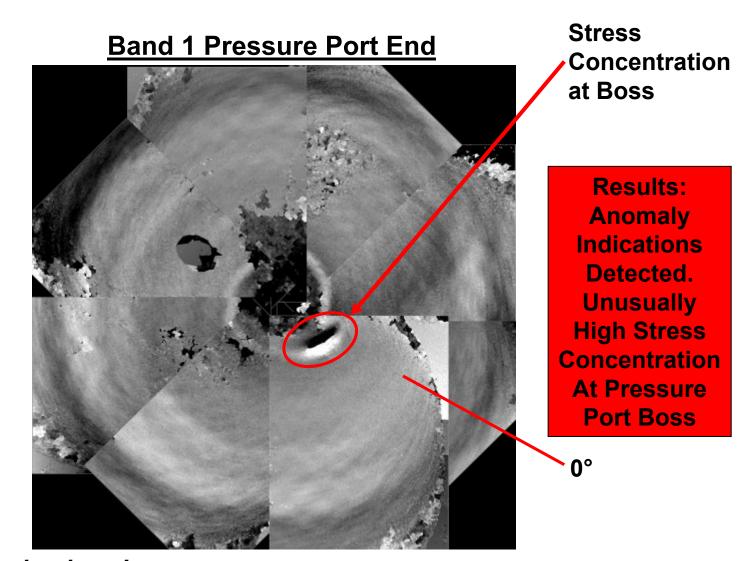
Results:
No Anomaly
Indications
Detected

0° 360°



Band 1 Pressure Port End



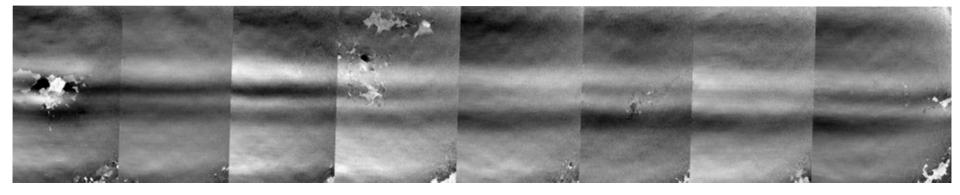


10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 003

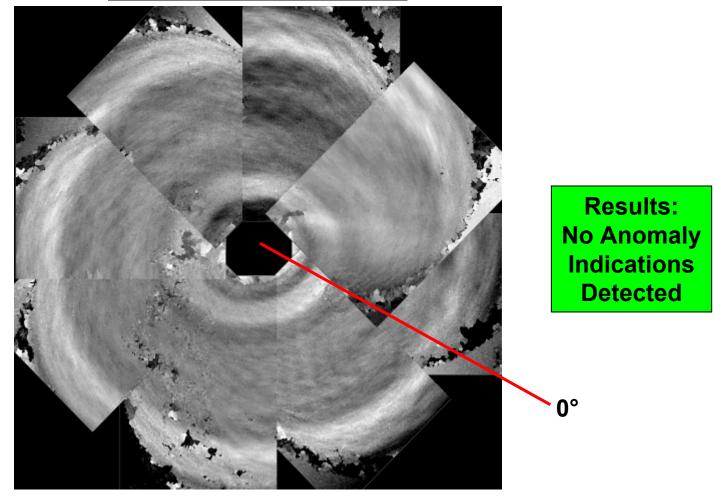
Band 2 Equator over Circumferential Weld

Results: No Anomaly Indications Detected

0° 360°

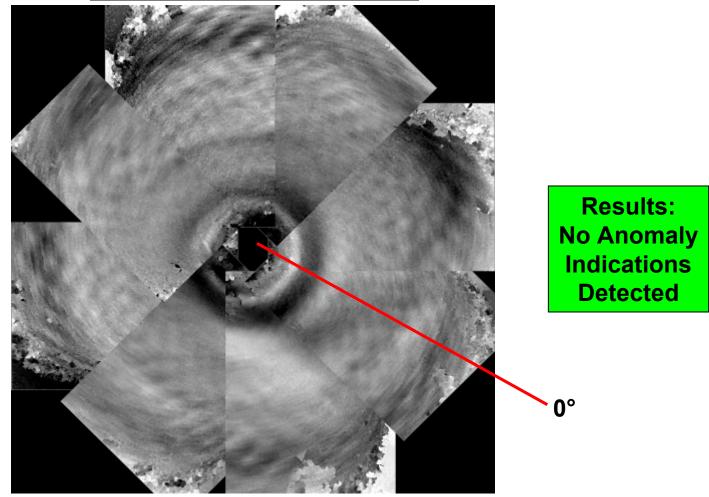


Band 3 Blank Boss End



10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 012

Band 1 Pressure Port End





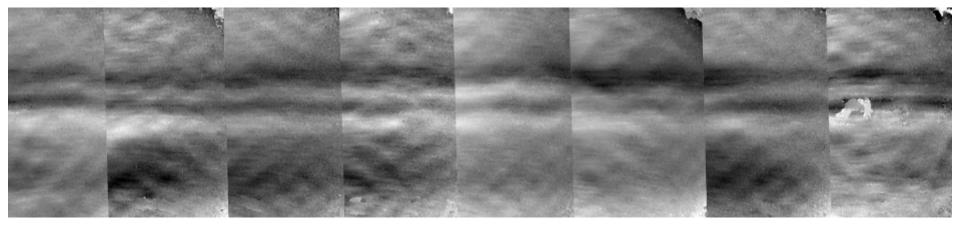
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10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 012

Band 2 Equator over Circumferential Weld

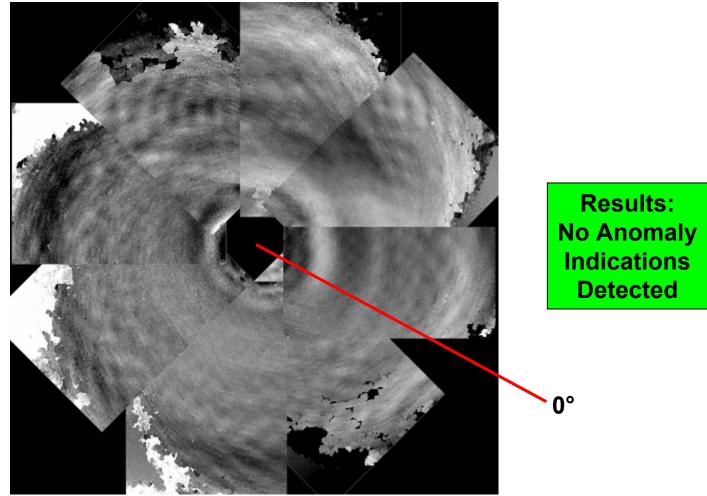
Results: No Anomaly Indications Detected

0° 360°



10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 012

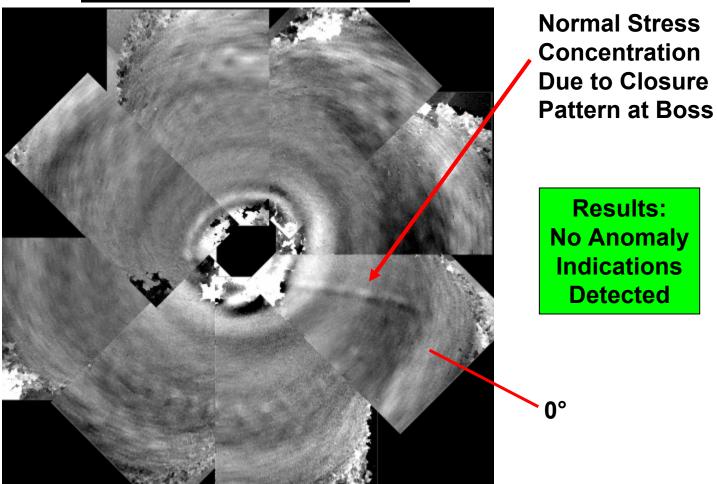
Band 3 Blank Boss End





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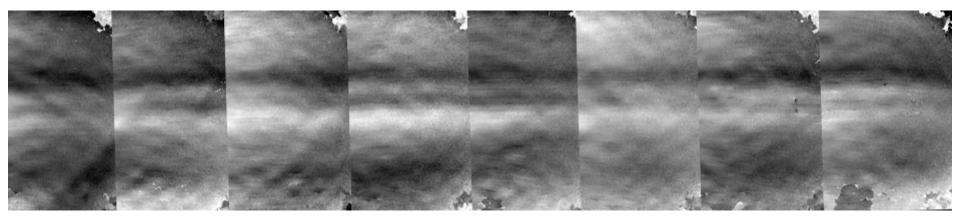


10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 014

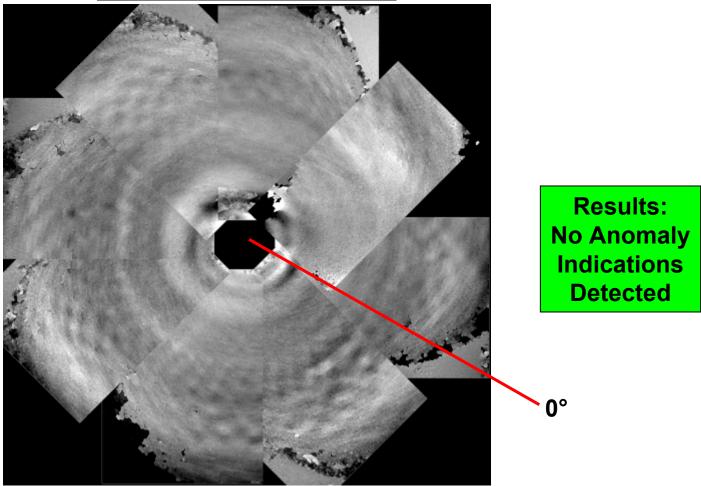
Band 2 Equator over Circumferential Weld

Results: No Anomaly Indications Detected

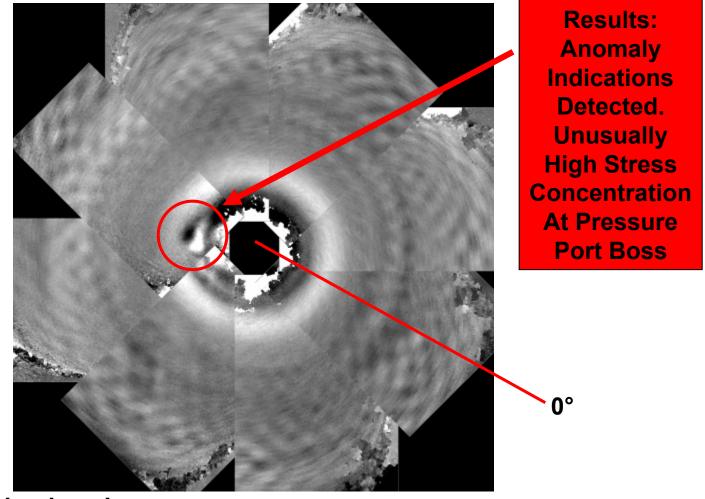
0° 360°



Band 3 Blank Boss End







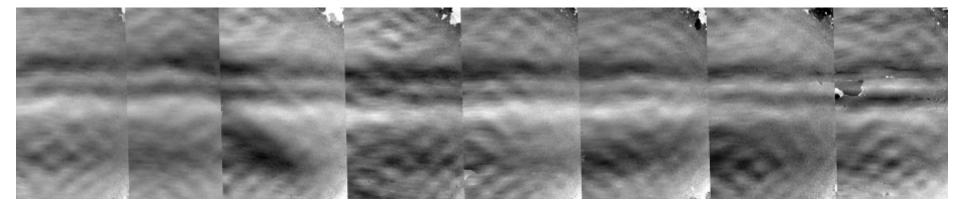


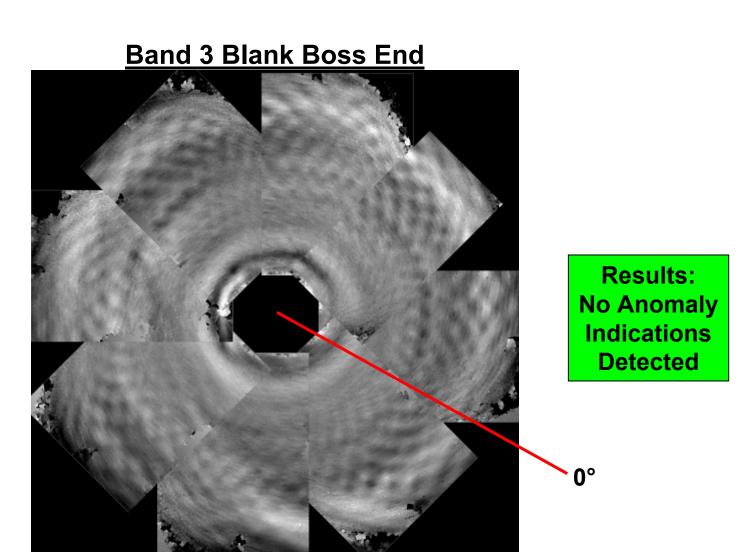
10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 015

Band 2 Equator over Circumferential Weld

Results: No Anomaly Indications Detected

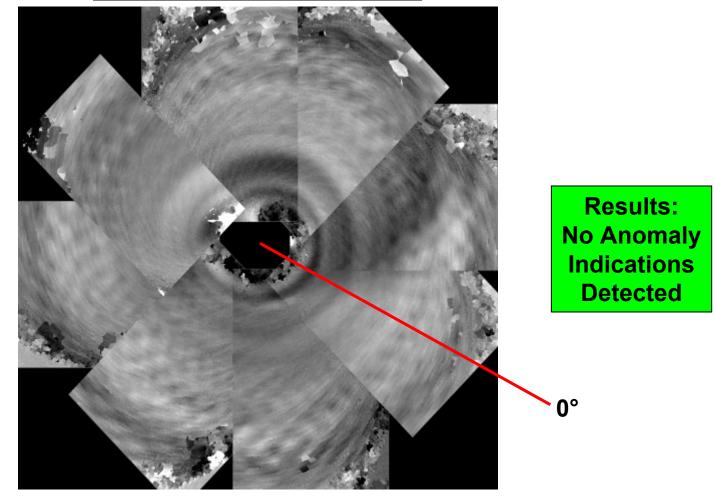
0° 360°





10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 019

Band 1 Pressure Port End

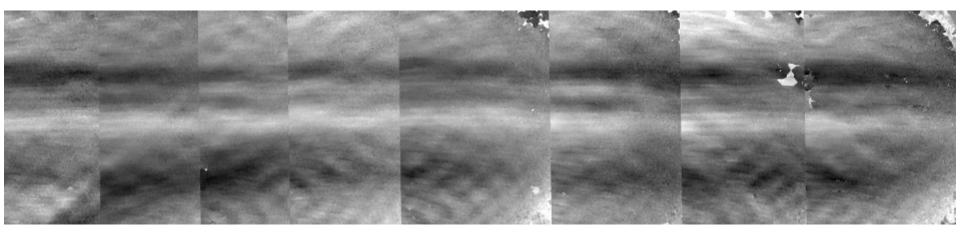


10 1/4 Inch Kevlar Sphere s/n 019

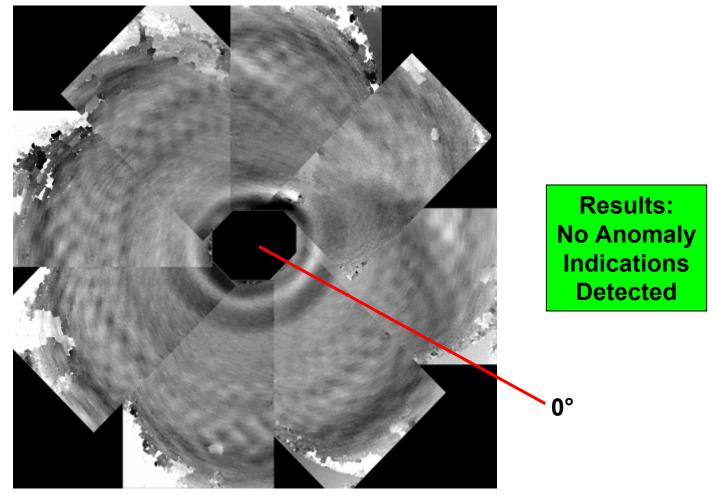
Band 2 Equator over Circumferential Weld

Results: No Anomaly Indications Detected

0° 360°



Band 3 Blank Boss End



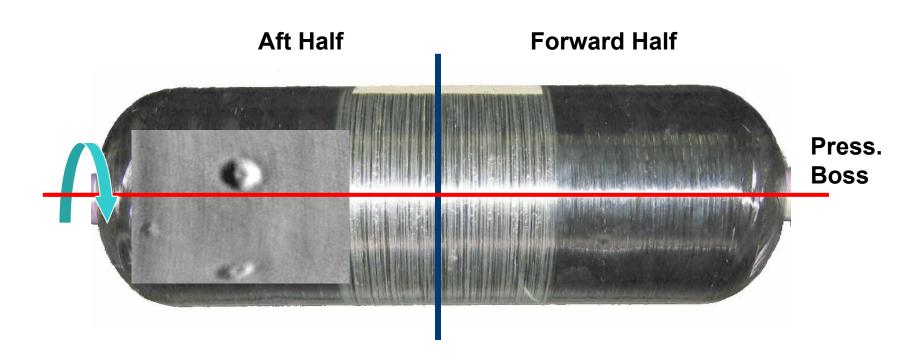
Graphite COPV Shearography Test Results

Space Station Graphite COPV

- •Cylinder 6 x 22 inch s/n 010
- •Cylinder 6 x 22 inch s/n 015
- •Cylinder 6 x 22 inch s/n 026
- •Cylinder 6 x 22 inch s/n 027
- •Cylinder 6 x 22 inch s/n 063
- •Cylinder 6 x 22 inch s/n 139
- Cylinder 13 x 25 inch s/n 021
- •Sphere 10.25 inch s/n 060
- •Sphere 10.25 inch s/n 066
- Sphere 10.25 inch s/n 074
- Sphere 18 inch s/n 010

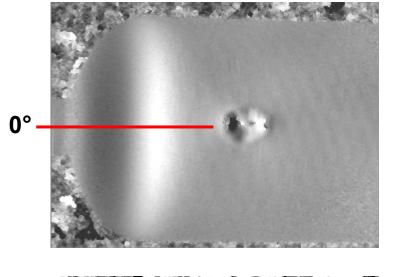
6 x 22 Inch Graphite Cylinders

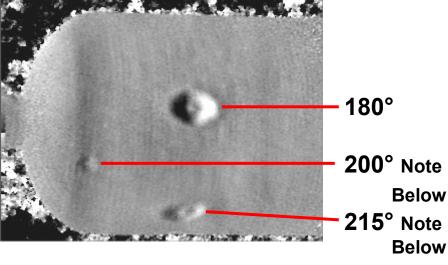
Shearography Scan Plan 6 x 22 Inch Graphite Cylinders

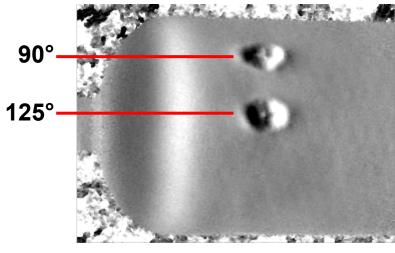


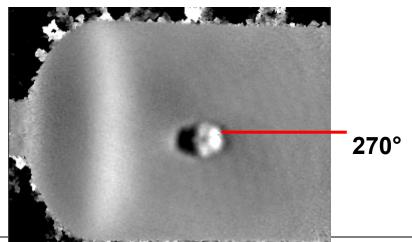
- Tank tested in 2 bands, Aft Half and Forward Half
- Tank rotated one frame after each test as shown.
- Shearogram shows damage to scale on tank photo.

6 x 22 Inch Graphite Cylinder SCI s/n 010







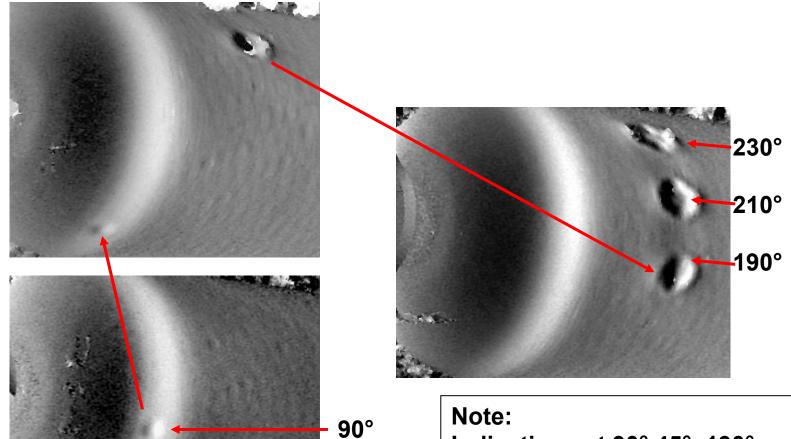


Note: Indications at 200°, 215° are not listed on the VT Score Sheet provided.



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6 x 22 Inch Graphite Cylinder SCI s/n 015

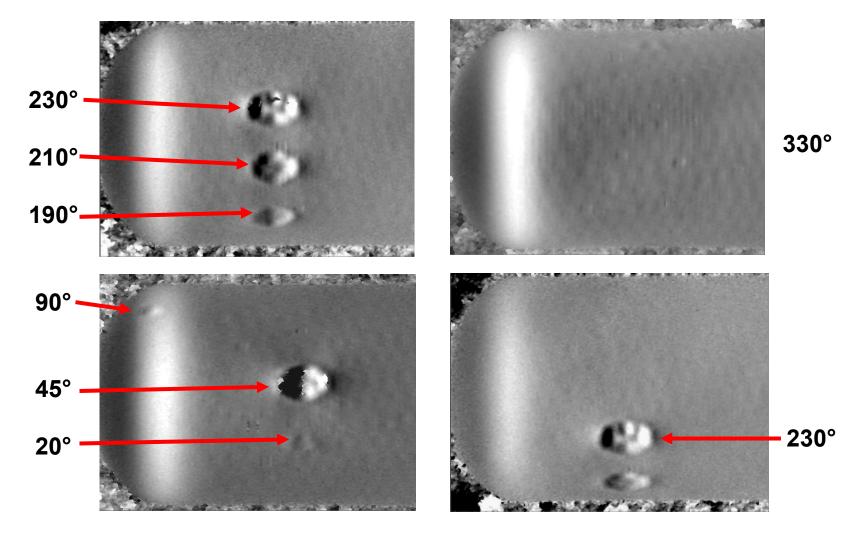


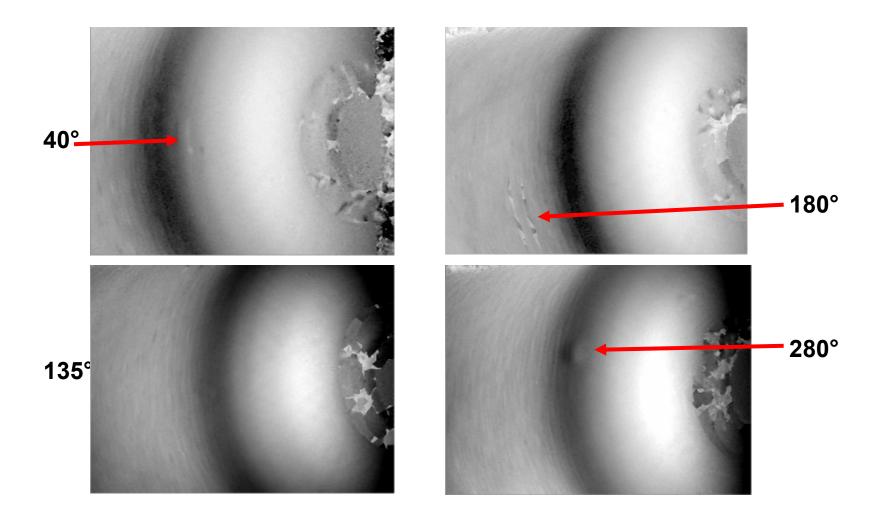


Indications at 90°,45°, 190°, and 230° are not listed on the VT Score Sheet provided.

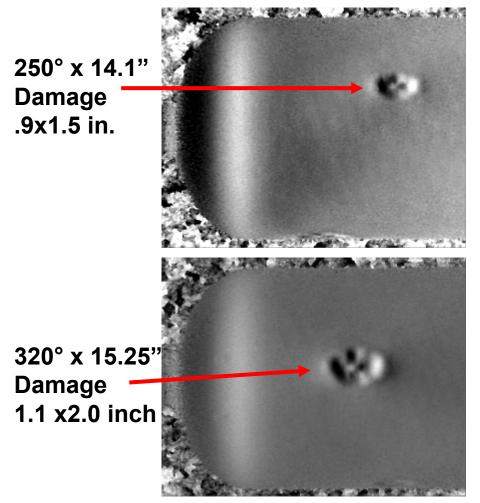
Area at 280° not inspected.

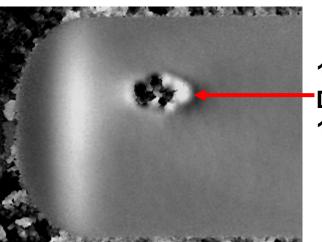
45°





6 x 22 Inch Graphite Cylinder <u>s/n 026</u>

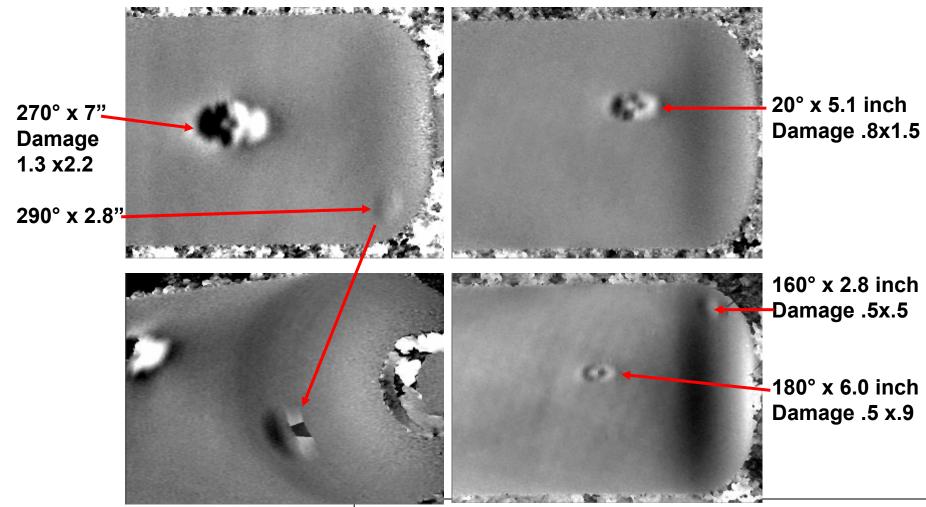




145° x 16.0" Damage 1.3 x 2.2 inch



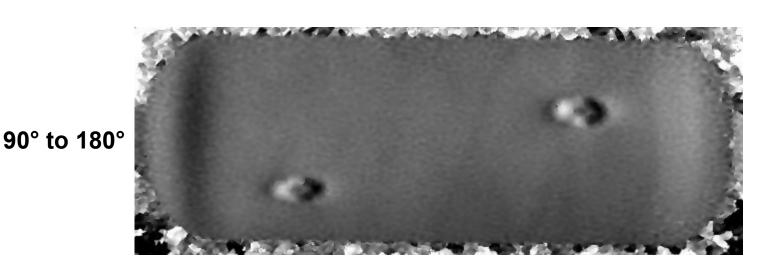
6 x 22 Inch Graphite Cylinder <u>s/n 026</u>



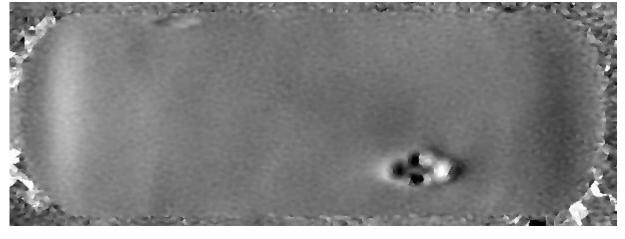


Note: Indications at 160°, and 290° are not listed on the VT Score Card provided.

6 x 22 Inch Graphite Cylinder s/n 027



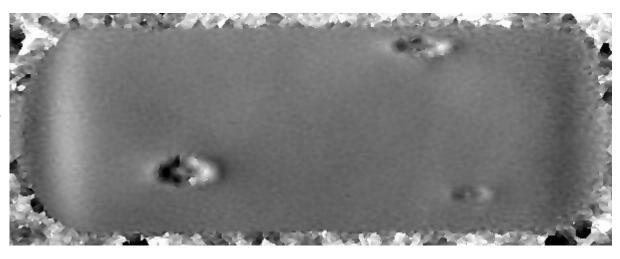
0° to 90°



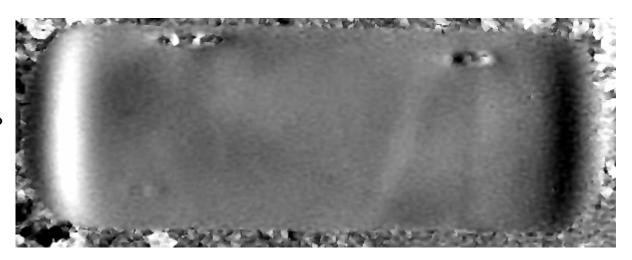


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6 x 22 Inch Graphite Cylinder s/n 027

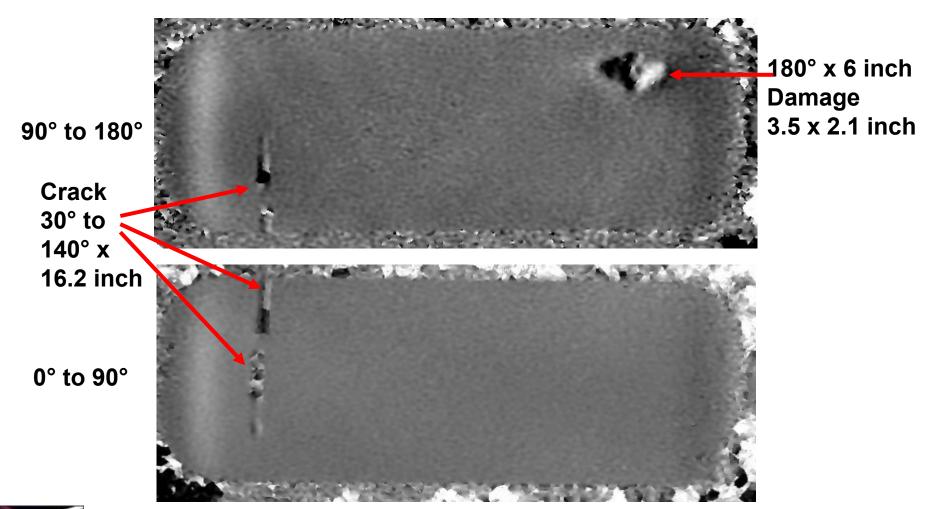


270° to 360°

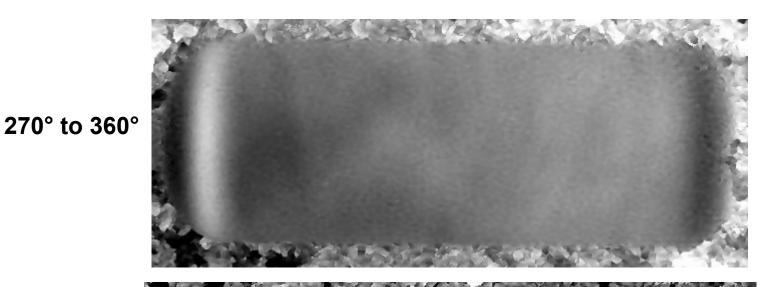


180° to 270°

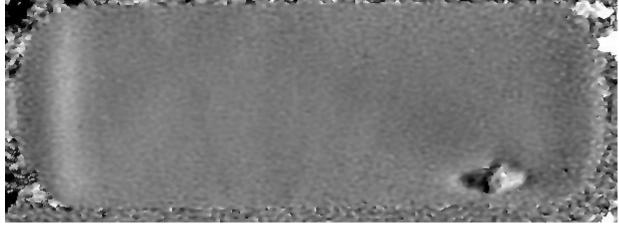
6 x 22 Inch Graphite Cylinder <u>s/n 063</u>



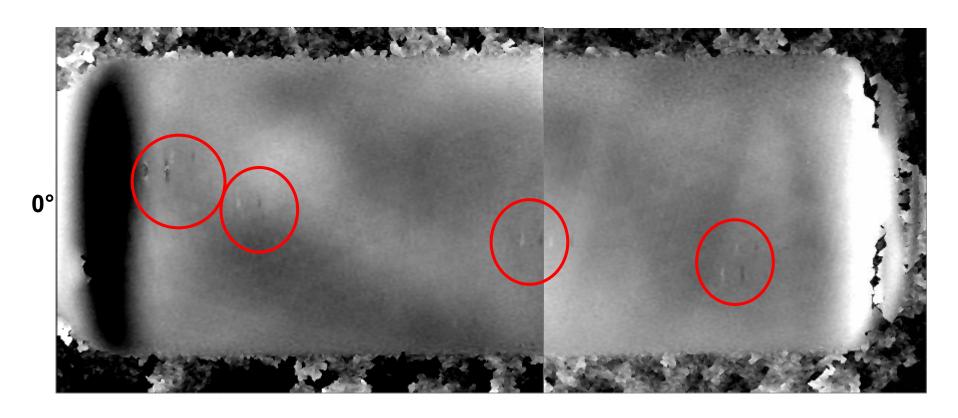
6 x 22 Inch Graphite Cylinder s/n 063



180° to 270°

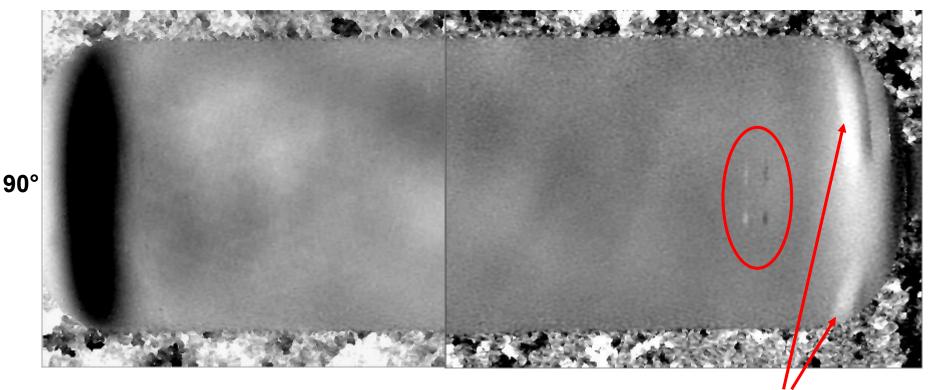


6 x 22 Inch Graphite Cylinder s/n 139



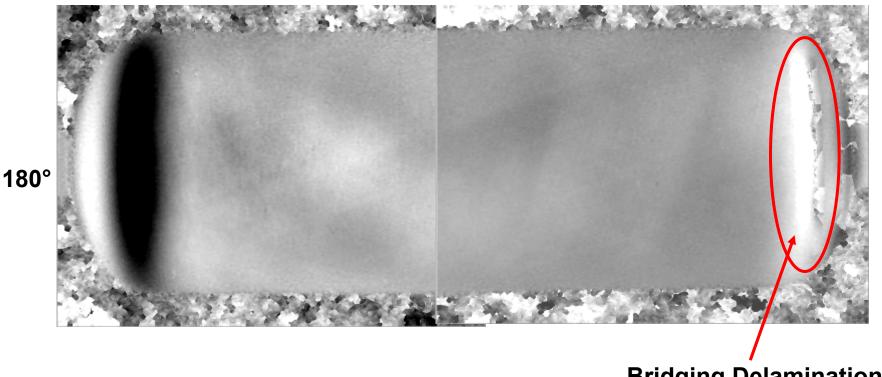
Circled areas are small cracks due to impact.

6 x 22 Inch Graphite Cylinder s/n 139

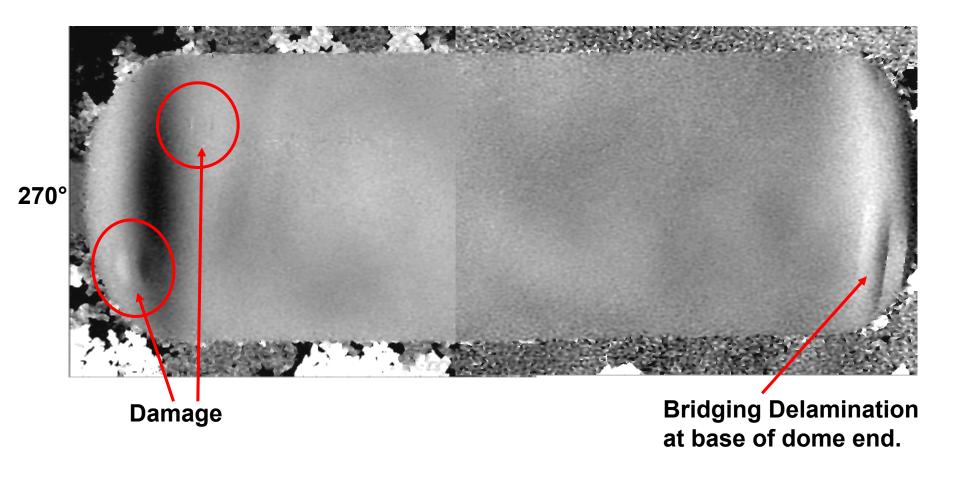


Bridging Delaminations at base of dome end.

6 x 22 Inch Graphite Cylinder s/n 139

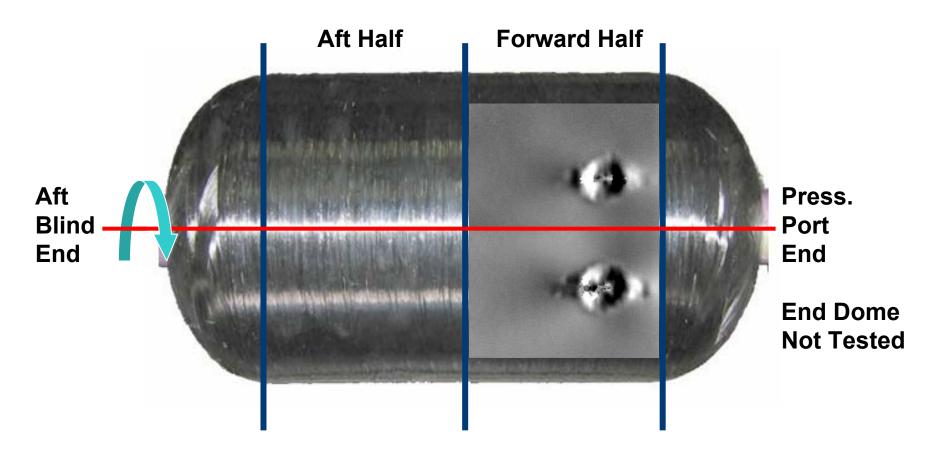


Bridging Delamination at base of dome end.

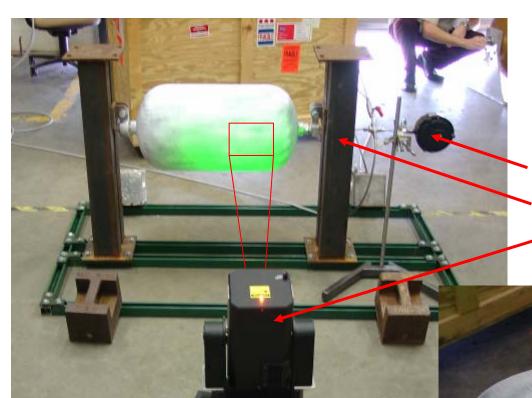


13 x 25 Inch Graphite Cylinder

Shearography Scan Plan 13 x 25 Inch Graphite Cylinders



- Tank tested in 2 bands, Aft Half and Forward Half
- Tank rotated one frame after each test as shown.
- Shearogram shows damage to scale on tank photo.



Shearography Test Set-Up for 13 x 25 Inch Graphite COPV

Pressure Gage Support Frame

LTI-5100 Shearography Camera



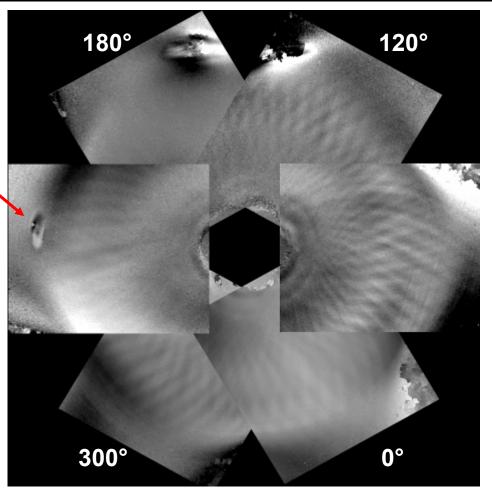
13 x 25 Inch Graphite Cylinder s/n 021

Shearography COPV Test Data 13 x 25 Inch Graphite Cylinder s/n 021

Aft Blind Flange End- No Defect Indication on Dome

Impact on
Barrel Section
22.1" from boss@ 225°
Damage 1.5 x 1.4 in.

240°



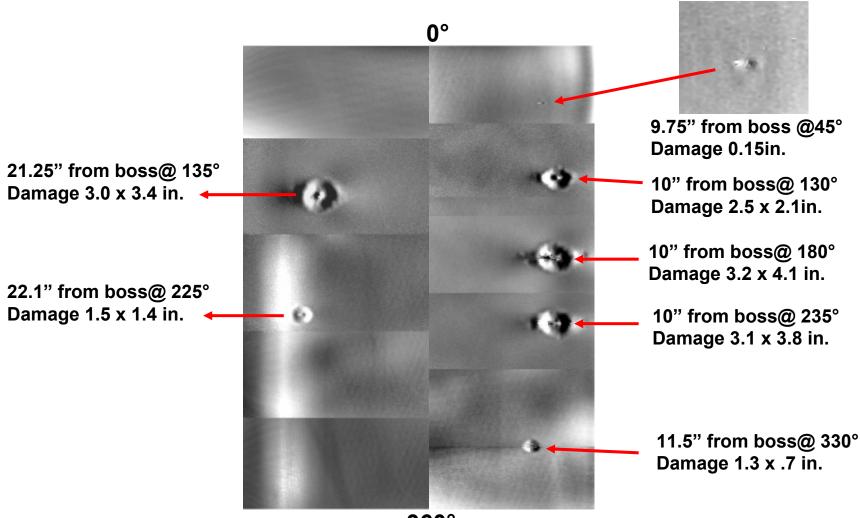
60°



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13 x 25 Inch Graphite Cylinder s/n 021

<u>Barrel Section of COPV</u>





360°

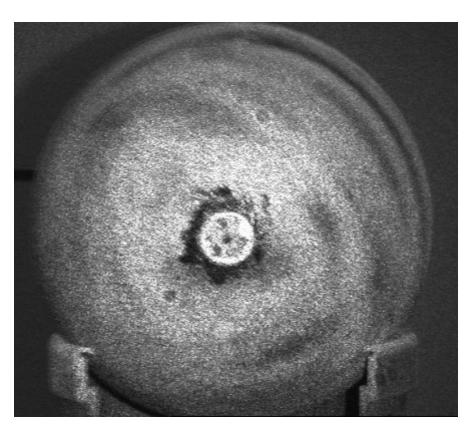
Shearography Scan Plan 10.25 Inch Graphite Spheres

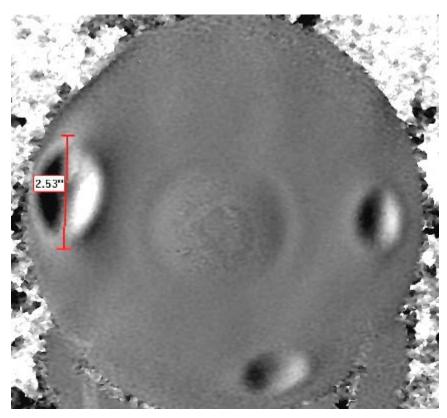


Note: Due to the large number of damaged areas and limited time, images were recorded but no dimensions are provided, nor correlation with VT.

10.25 Inch Graphite Sphere s/n 060

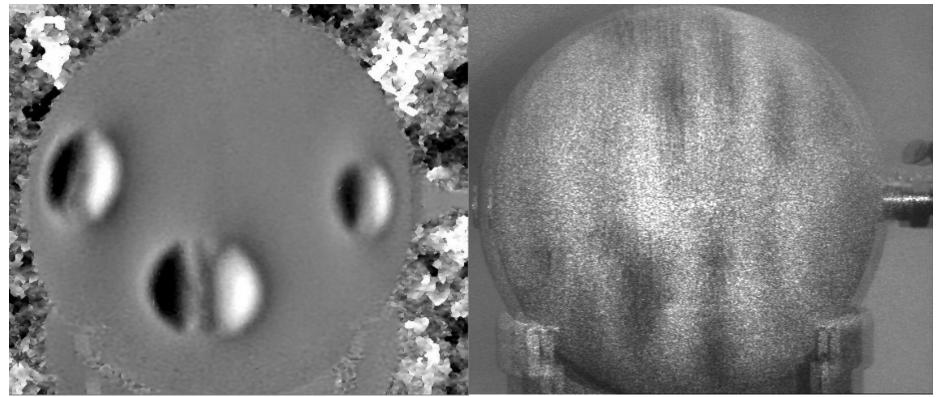
Blind Flange End





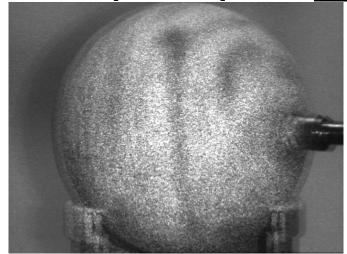
10.25 Inch Graphite Sphere s/n 060

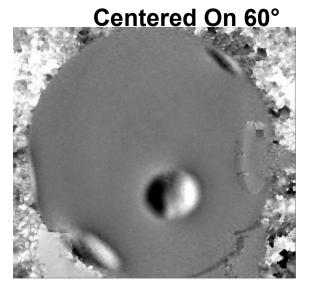
Side View Centered on 30°

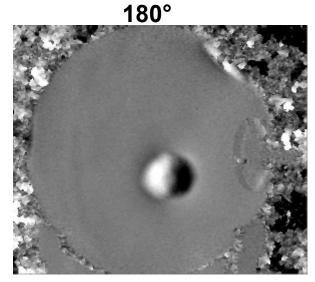


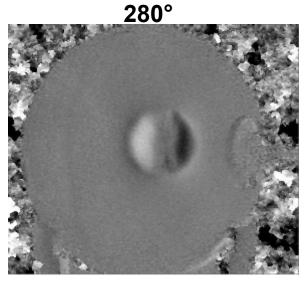
Shearography

Live Image





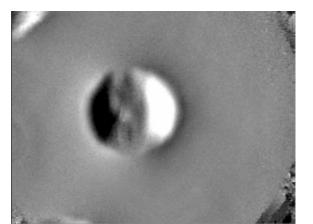


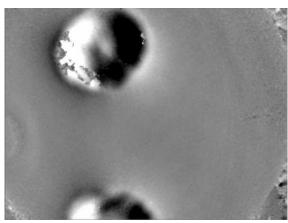


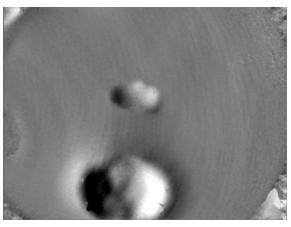


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10.25 Inch Graphite Sphere s/n 066



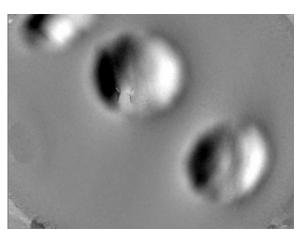


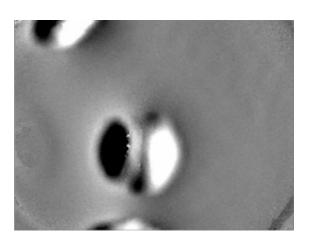


50°

130°

230°



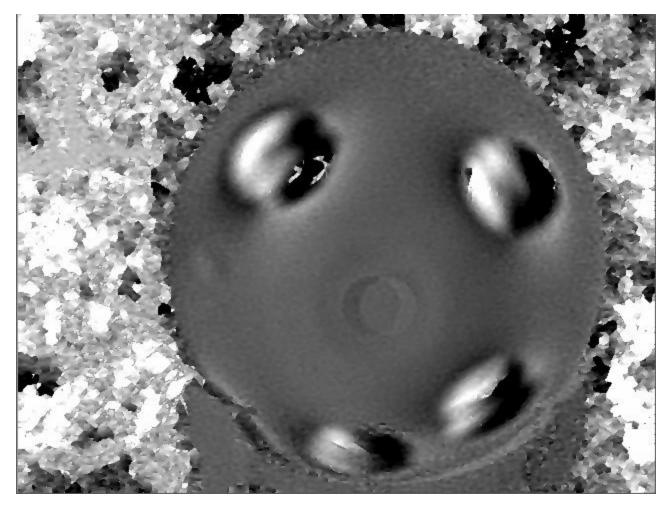


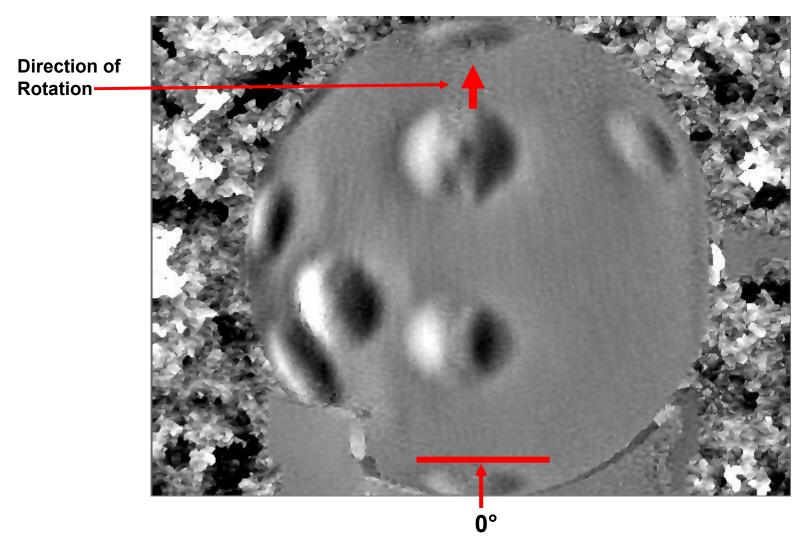
270°

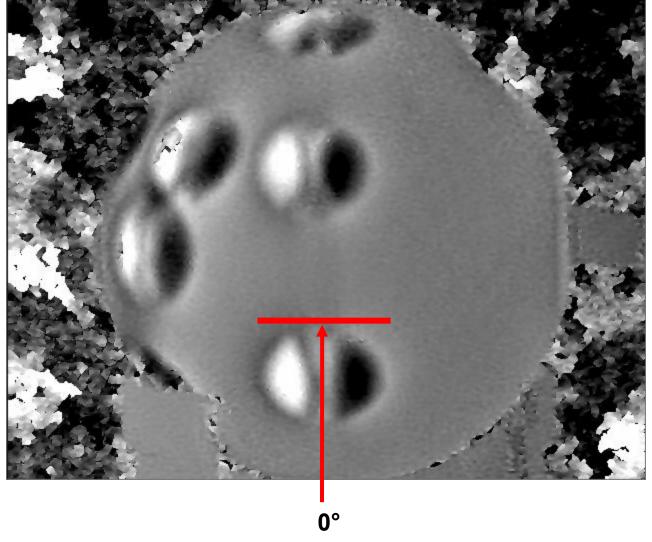
320°

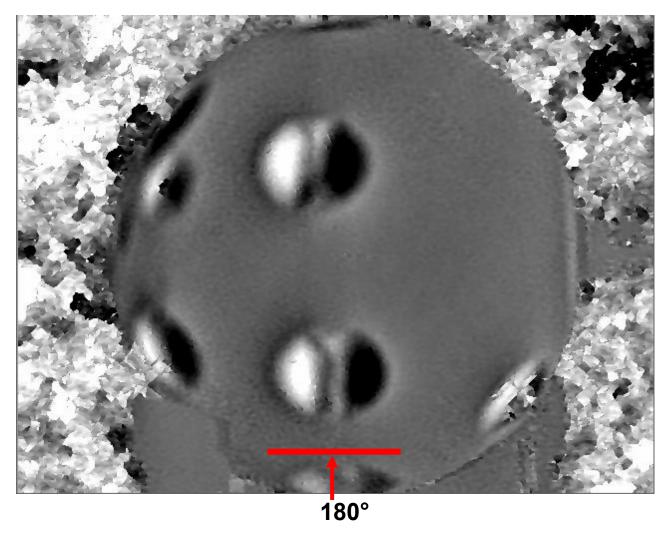


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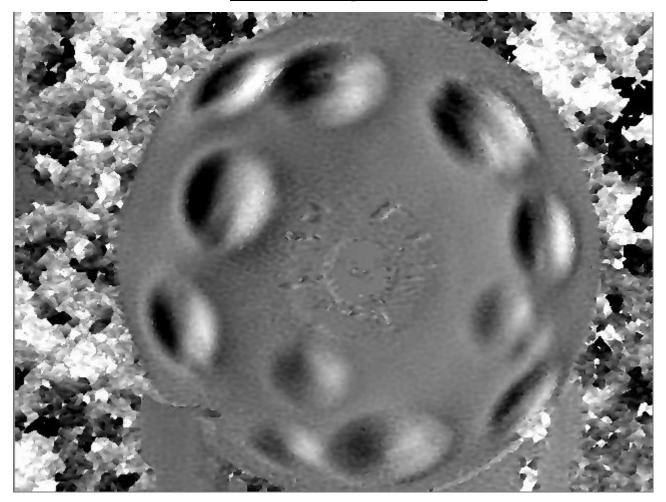






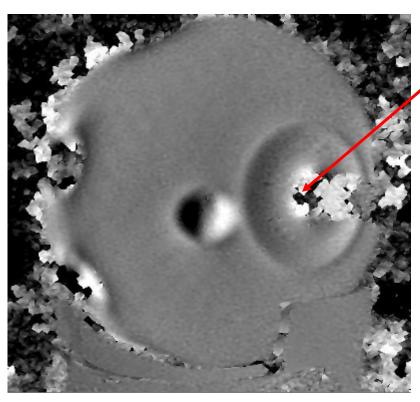


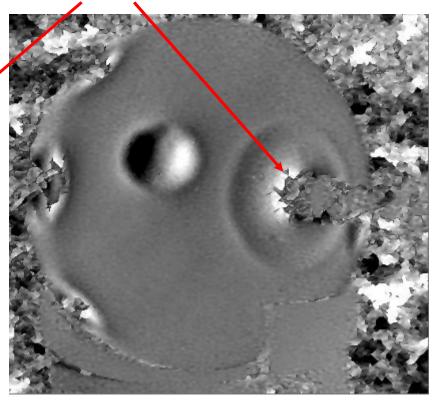
10.25 Inch Graphite Sphere s/n 074 Blind Flange End View



10.25 Inch Graphite Sphere s/n 074

Gas Pressurization Flange End

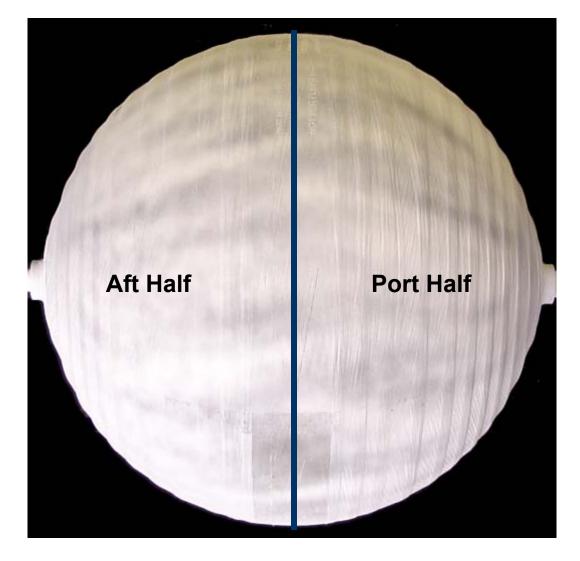




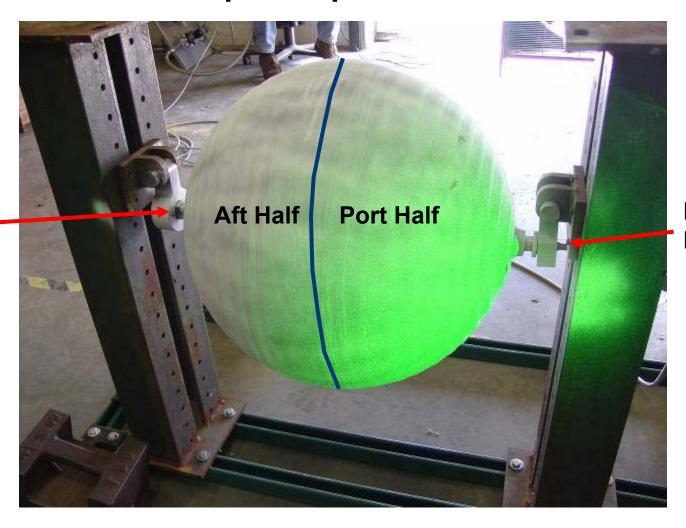
255° 75°

18 Inch Graphite Sphere

Shearography Scan Plan 6 x 22 Inch Graphite Cylinder



Shearography Test Set-Up for 18 Inch Graphite Sphere COPV

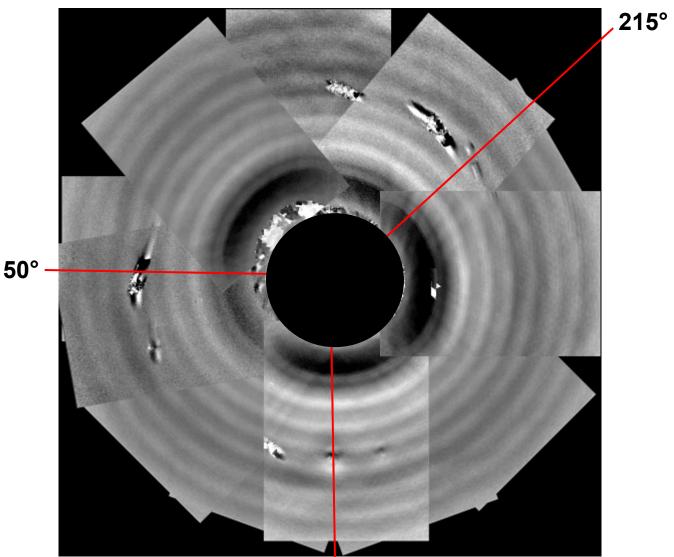


Port Boss Fill Tube

Aft Blind

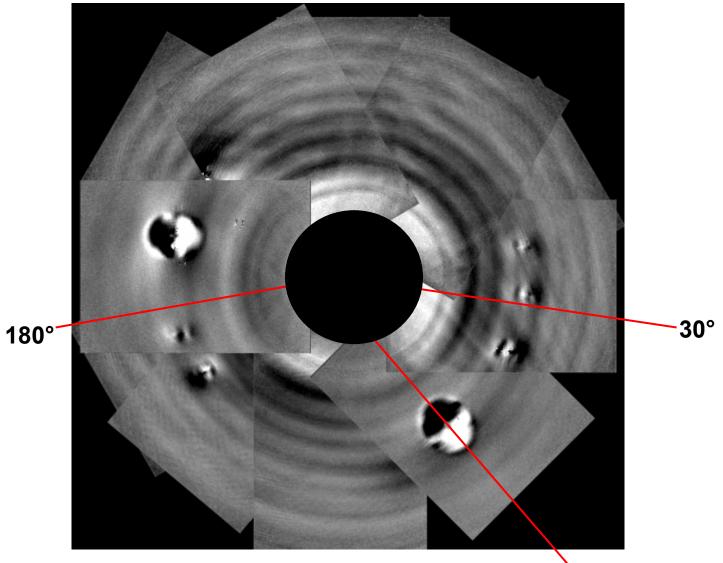
Boss

18 Inch Graphite Sphere s/n 010 - Port Half





18 Inch Graphite Sphere s/n 010 - Aft Half





Laser Technology Inc.
Aerospace Inspection Systems

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